
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

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CONTENTS

TABLE/FIGURE	PAGE
<i>Consumer/Case Counts</i>	
Table 1. Case and Consumer Counts by Location: DSS Regions and State	4
Figure 1. Quarterly Changes in Case Counts by DSS Region	5
Figure 2. Quarterly Changes in Consumer Counts by DSS Region	5
Table 2. Child Caseload: DSS Regions and Area Offices	6
Figure 3. Quarterly Changes in Children in Placement by DSS Region	7
Figure 4. Quarterly Changes in Children Not in Placement by DSS Region	7
<i>Consumer Age, Sex, Race, Hispanic Origin, Primary Language, Location, Service Plan Goal, and Continuous Time in Care</i>	
Figure 5. Age and Sex of Consumers: State	8
Table 3A. Race of Consumers: DSS Regions and State.....	9
Table 3B. Hispanic Origin of Consumers: DSS Regions and State	9
Figure 6A. Regional Proportions of Consumers by Race	10
Figure 6B. Regional Counts of Consumers by Race	10
Figure 6C. Regional Proportions of Consumers by Hispanic Origin.....	11
Figure 6D. Regional Counts of Consumers by Hispanic Origin.....	11
Table 4. Primary Language of Consumers: DSS Regions and State	12
Table 5A. Consumers in Placement by Age and Location: DSS Regions and State	20
Table 5B. Consumers in Foster Care by Age and Location: DSS Regions and State	21
Table 5C. Consumers in Residential Care by Age and Location: DSS Regions and State	22
Figure 7A. Regional Proportions of Consumers in Departmental Foster Care by Type of Location.....	23
Figure 7B. Regional Counts of Consumers in Departmental Foster Care by Type of Location.....	23
Figure 8A. Regional Proportions of Consumers in Residential Care by Type of Location	24
Figure 8B. Regional Counts of Consumers in Residential Care by Type of Location	24
Figure 9. Quarterly Changes in Consumers in Foster Care by DSS Region	25
Figure 10. Quarterly Changes in Consumers in Residential Care by DSS Region	25
Table 6A. Consumers in Placement: Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin by DSS Regions and State	26
Table 6B. Consumers in Placement: Age, Service Plan Goal, and Continuous Time in Care: DSS Regions and State.....	27
Figure 11A. Consumers in Placement by Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin: State.....	28
Figure 11B. Consumers in Placement by Age, Service Plan Goal, and Continuous Time in Care: State	29
Table 7A. Consumers in Placement by Race and Continuous Time in Care: State.....	30
Table 7B. Consumers in Placement by Hispanic Origin and Continuous Time in Care: State	30
Table 8A. Consumers in Placement by Race and Service Plan Goal: State	31

CONTENTS (continued)

TABLE/FIGURE	PAGE
Table 8B. Consumers in Placement by Hispanic Origin and Service Plan Goal: State	31
Table 8C. Consumers in Placement by Age and Service Plan Goal: State	31
Table 8D. Consumers in Placement by Continuous Time in Care and Service Plan Goal: State	31
<i>Consumers in Placement with a Goal of Adoption</i>	
Figure 12A. Profile of Consumers in Placement with a Goal of Adoption	32
Figure 12B. Consumers in Placement with a Goal of Adoption: Legal Status and Match Status	33
Figure 12C. Consumers in Placement with a Goal of Adoption and Legally Free	34
Figure 12D. Consumers in Placement with a Goal of Adoption and Matched to a Permanent Family.....	34
<i>Intakes (Case Openings)</i>	
Table 9A. Case Intakes by Type of Initial Contact: DSS Regions and State.....	36
Table 9B. Consumer Intakes by Type of Initial Contact: DSS Regions and State	36
Figure 13. Reason for Case Openings by DSS Region.....	37
Figure 14. Quarterly Changes in Case Openings by DSS Region.....	37
<i>Consumers with Placements Starting or Ending in Quarter</i>	
Table 10. Consumers with Placements Starting during the Quarter: First-Time Entrants and Re-entrants by DSS Regions and State	40
Table 11. Consumers with Placements Ending during the Quarter: Reason Left Placement by DSS Regions and State	40
Figure 15. Consumers with Placements Starting during the Quarter: First-time Entrants and Re-entrants by DSS Region.....	41
Figure 16. Consumers with Foster and Residential Care Placements Starting during the Quarter by DSS Region	41
<i>Adoption and Guardianship Subsidies</i>	
Figure 17. Children Receiving Adoption Subsidies and Guardianship Subsidies: State.....	42
<i>Foster Home Profile</i>	
Table 12A. Foster Homes by Type and Race: DSS Regions and State	45
Table 12B. Foster Homes by Type and Hispanic Origin: DSS Regions and State	45
Table 12C. Foster Homes by Type and Marital Status: DSS Regions and State	46
<i>Child Maltreatment</i>	
Table 13. Child Abuse/Neglect Reports: DSS Regions and State.....	49
Table 14. Child Abuse/Neglect Investigations: DSS Regions and State.....	49
Figure 18. Child Abuse/Neglect Reports: DSS Regions	50

CONTENTS (continued)

TABLE/FIGURE	PAGE
Figure 19. Child Abuse/Neglect Investigations: DSS Regions	50
Figure 20. Quarterly Changes in Child Abuse/Neglect Reports by DSS Region	51
Figure 21. Quarterly Changes in Child Abuse/Neglect Investigations by DSS Region	51
Figure 22. Type of Case Referral: State	54
Figure 23. Reasons for Mandatory Referrals: State	54
Table 15. Reasons for Mandatory Case Referrals to District Attorneys: State	55
Table 16. Type of Case Referral: County	55

OBSERVATIONS (Regional and Statewide)

Consumer and Case Counts

- At the end of the 3rd Quarter of FY'2006, DSS had 23,373 open cases (1,792 adoption cases and 21,581 clinical cases). A total of 74,779 consumers¹ (35,296 adults and 39,483 children) were being served. Case counts ranged from 2,970 in the Boston Region to 4,889 in the Southeastern Region. **(Table 1)**
- From the 2nd to the 3rd Quarter of FY'2006, consumer counts and case counts each dropped 1%. The consumer population typically drops in the summer quarter (Q1) then rises and levels off during the school quarters (Q2-Q4). This seasonal pattern is related to the rise and fall of child abuse and neglect reports and investigations throughout the year. **(Figs. 1 and 2 on page 5, Figs. 20 and 21 on page 51)**

Consumers in Placement

- There were 10,769 individuals in placement on the last day of the 3rd Quarter of FY'2006. Included in this count are 9,481 children (less than 18 years old) and 1,288 young adults (18 to 23 years old). **(Table 1)**
- The placement population was distributed across DSS service regions as follows: 22% in the Western Region, 20% in the Southeastern Region, 18% in the Northeastern Region, 14% in the Metro Region, 13% in the Central Region, and 12% in the Boston Region. **(Table 1)**
- Statewide, 24% (or 9,481) of all children (less than 18 years old) with open cases (and assessment for services/service plan goal) were in placement. The regional statistics for children in placement as a proportion of all children receiving services were: 27% in the West, 24% in both the Southeast and Metro, 23% in the Northeast, 22% in Central, and 21% in Boston. **(Table 2)**
- Of all children less than 18 years old receiving services, the Pittsfield, Fall River, and Holyoke Area Offices had the highest proportions in placement. The lowest proportions of children in placement were found at the Lawrence, Malden, Harbor, and Worcester West Area Offices. **(Table 2)**

¹ Total consumers include all individuals with an active case status who had an assessment for services or a service plan goal on the last day of the quarter. These selection criteria exclude consumers not in placement who have an active case status that is pending the outcome of an investigation.

- From the 2nd to the 3rd Quarter of FY'2006, there was no significant statewide change in children in placement (<1%). Regionally, the most notable fluctuations occurred in the Southeast (-5%) and Central (5%). **(Fig. 3)**

Children Not in Placement

- From the 2nd to the 3rd Quarter of FY'2006, counts of children not in placement decreased 4% statewide. Regional declines ranged from 1% in the Northeast to 7% in Central. Quarterly counts of children not in placement (and to a lesser degree, children in placement) display a fluctuating pattern with a distinct drop during the first quarter (summer vacation). **(Fig. 4)**

Age, Sex, Race, and Preferred Language of Consumers

- On the last day of the 3rd Quarter of FY'2006, the consumer population included 39,483 (53%) children less than 18 years old and 35,296 (47%) adults 18 years or older. Fifty-three percent of all consumers were identified as female, 46% as male, and 1% were unspecified as of the run-date. Forty percent (15,603) of all children were adolescents (12 to 17 years old). **(Table 1, Fig. 5)**
- The number of female children in the DSS caseload was approximately equal to the number of male children. In contrast, the ratio of female to male adults was 1.5:1. **(Fig. 5)**
- The statewide caseload was comprised of 56% White, 16% Black, 2% Asian, and less than 1% Native American consumers. Race was unspecified for 24% of the consumers. **(Table 3A, Figs. 6A and 6B)**
- Of the total consumer population, 22% (16,796 consumers) were of Hispanic origin. Regionally, the highest proportions of Hispanic consumers were in the Northeast, West, and Boston. **(Table 3B, Figs. 6C and 6D)**
- The Boston Region's caseload was comprised of 47% Black and 22% White consumers (4,359 and 2,013 consumers, respectively). Asians were most prominent in the Northeast-- 7% of the caseload (884 consumers, mainly Cambodian). **(Table 3A, Figs. 6A and 6B)**

- The Northeastern, Western, and Boston Regions had the highest proportions (and numbers) of Spanish-speaking consumers, 8% (1,120 consumers), 8% (1,087), and 8% (709), respectively. Khmer (Cambodian) was the preferred language of 398 DSS consumers (1%). Khmer-speaking consumers were mainly concentrated in the Northeast. Other languages and their regions of highest prevalence were Portuguese (Metro and Southeast), Haitian Creole (Metro and Boston), Cape Verdean Creole (Southeast and Boston), Vietnamese (Boston and Central), and Lao (Northeast). (**Table 4**)
- A racial comparison of children receiving various services from DSS to children residing in Massachusetts is displayed in the following table. Black children and Hispanic children are over-represented at all stages in the DSS system. However, the actual extent of racial and ethnic disproportionality is not known given the number of children whose race and/or ethnicity has not been recorded.

Race	Children Less than 18 Years Old								
	State Census ² 2000	DSS Not in Care 3/31/06	DSS All Substitute Care 3/31/06	DSS Foster Care 3/31/06	DSS Residential Care 3/31/06	DSS All Care w/Goal of Adoption 3/31/06	DSS All Care w/Goal of Guardianship 3/31/06	DSS Adoptions Legalized FY'2005	DSS Guardianships Legalized FY'2005
White	79%	56%	60%	60%	62%	60%	58%	61%	67%
Black	7%	17%	19%	18%	21%	17%	23%	17%	17%
Asian	4%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%
Native American	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	1%	<1%	<1%
Pacific Islander	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	----	<1%	----
Multi-Racial	4%	3%	4%	5%	3%	6%	3%	6%	5%
Other/Unknown	6%	21%	15%	16%	13%	17%	14%	15%	9%
TOTAL%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
TOTAL#	1,500,064	30,002	9,481	7,032	1,969	2,530	504	868	551
Hispanic Origin ³ Yes	11%	27%	26%	26%	23%	28%	21%	29%	23%
Hispanic Origin No	89%	65%	69%	69%	74%	66%	73%	64%	74%
Hispanic Origin Unknown	----	8%	5%	5%	3%	6%	6%	7%	3%
TOTAL%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

² Kids Count census data online, *Race of Children by Age Group in the 2000 Census*, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census Summary File 1 (Table P12A-P12G)

³ Children of any race who are Hispanic

TABLE 1. CASE AND CONSUMER COUNTS BY LOCATION AND DSS REGION: FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06)

DSS Geographic Region										Total
Case Counts:	West	Central	Northeast	Metro	Southeast	Boston	Adoption Contracts ⁽¹⁾	Other ⁽²⁾		
Adoption	389	209	259	232	351	186	165	1	1,792	
Clinical	4,044	2,943	3,892	3,352	4,538	2,784	6	22	21,581	
Total	4,433	3,152	4,151	3,584	4,889	2,970	171	23	23,373	
Consumer Counts:										
Adults: ⁽³⁾										
In Placement: ⁽⁴⁾ Foster/Residential Care ⁽⁵⁾	198	125	267	207	235	211	---	17	1,260	
Other ⁽⁶⁾	4	4	4	4	5	7	---	---	28	
Total in Placement	202	129	271	211	240	218	---	17	1,288	
Not in Placement	6,420	4,780	6,011	5,262	7,502	4,030	---	3	34,008	
Total Adults	6,622	4,909	6,282	5,473	7,742	4,248	---	20	35,296	
Children:										
In Placement: ⁽⁴⁾ Foster/Residential Care ⁽⁵⁾	2,008	1,199	1,529	1,248	1,801	945	265	6	9,001	
Other ⁽⁶⁾	50	30	57	34	46	42	2	---	261	
On the Run	64	17	34	22	37	45	---	---	219	
Total in Placement	2,122	1,246	1,620	1,304	1,884	1,032	267	6	9,481	
Not in Placement	5,674	4,492	5,566	4,242	6,067	3,957	1	3	30,002	
Total Children	7,796	5,738	7,186	5,546	7,951	4,989	268	9	39,483	
Total	14,418	10,647	13,468	11,019	15,693	9,237	268	29	74,779	

⁽¹⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.

⁽²⁾ Includes primarily families served through Central Office contracts.

⁽³⁾ Adults are consumers 18 years or older.

⁽⁴⁾ Children and young adults in the care/custody of DSS. "Adults" in Foster/Residential Care are being transitioned to the Departments of Mental Health (DMH) and Mental Retardation (DMR) or are supported by DSS until graduation from a full-time school or vocational training program (through age 23 for a Bachelor's Degree).

⁽⁵⁾ See Tables 5A, 5B, and 5C for a breakdown by type of placement.

⁽⁶⁾ "Other" includes non-referral locations such as hospitals and other state agencies.

FIGURE 1. CASE COUNT BY DSS REGION
 (FY'2005, End of 4TH QUARTER to FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER)

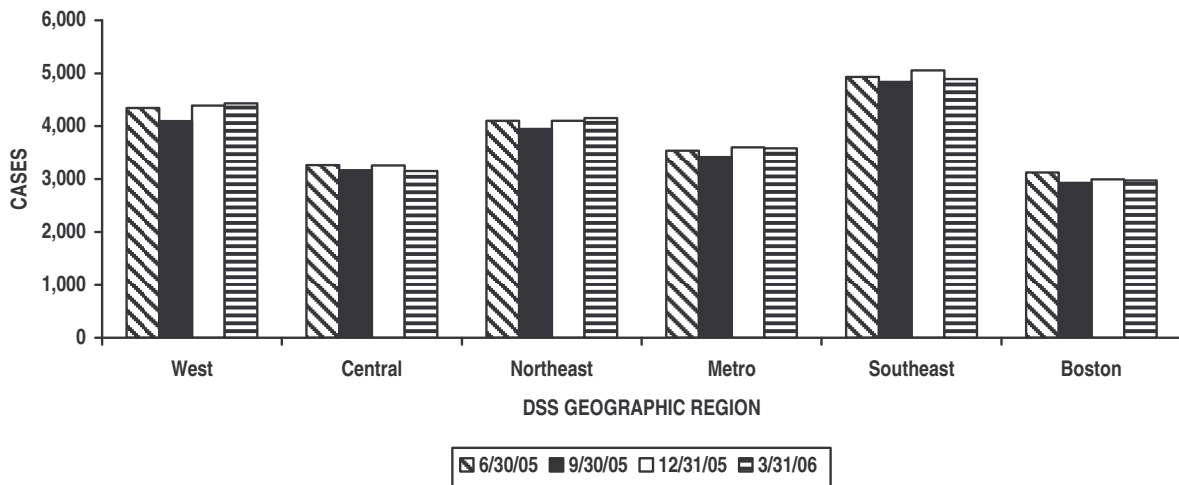


FIGURE 2. CONSUMER COUNT BY DSS REGION
 (FY'2005, End of 4TH QUARTER to FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER)

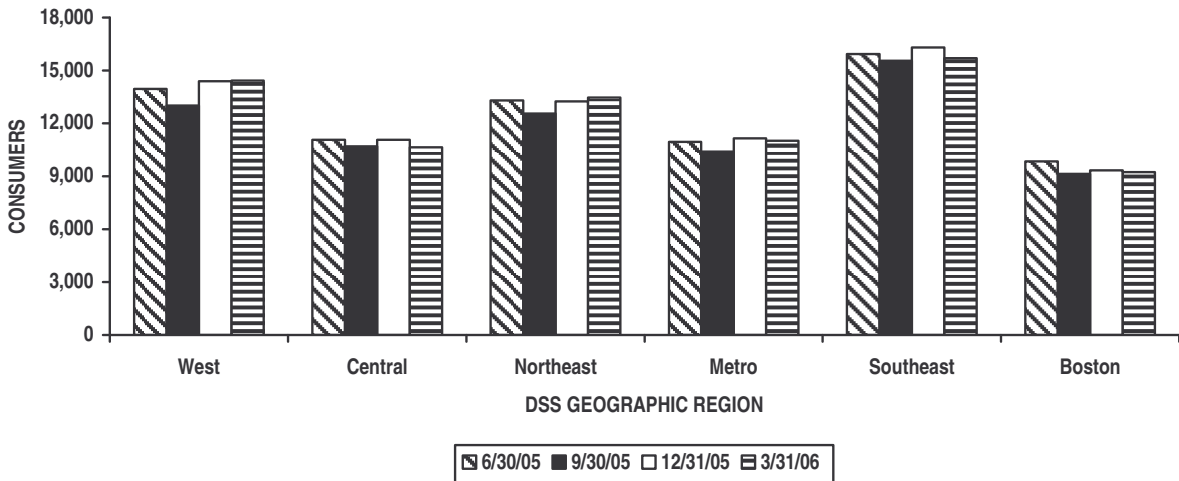


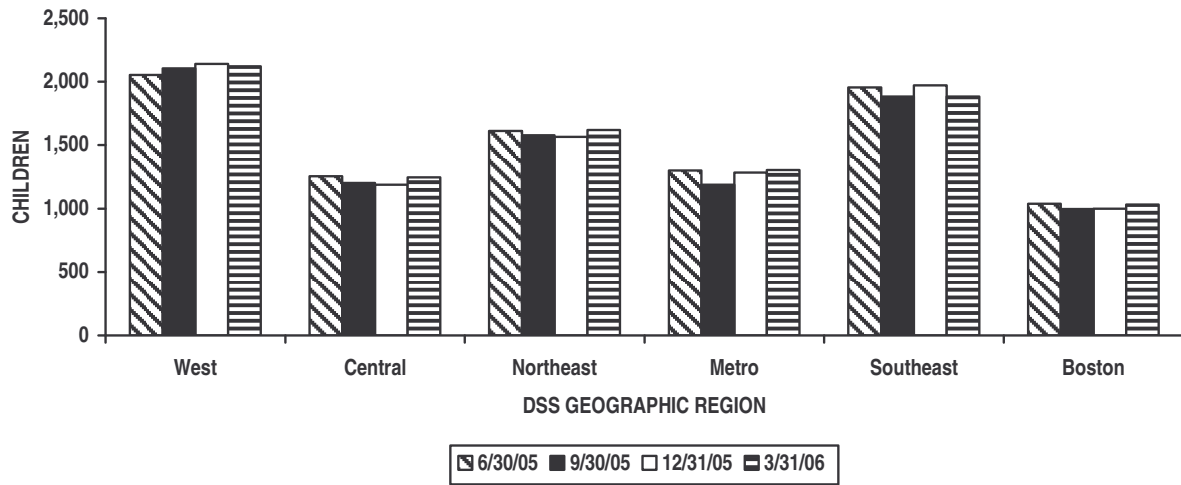
TABLE 2. CHILD⁽¹⁾ CASELOAD BY DSS : FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06)

DSS Region/Area	Not in Placement	In Placement	Total Child Caseload	% in Placement
Greenfield	837	330	1,167	28%
Holyoke	1,203	514	1,717	30%
Pittsfield	772	361	1,133	32%
Robert Van Wart	1,480	406	1,886	22%
Springfield	1,374	510	1,884	27%
Contracted Agencies	8	1	9	11%
Western	5,674	2,122	7,796	27%
North Central	1,365	334	1,699	20%
South Central	970	312	1,282	24%
Worcester East	1,093	350	1,443	24%
Worcester West	1,056	250	1,306	19%
Contracted Agencies	8	---	8	---
Central	4,492	1,246	5,738	22%
Cape Ann	958	306	1,264	24%
Haverhill	867	221	1,088	20%
Lawrence	1,513	312	1,825	17%
Lowell	1,246	450	1,696	27%
Lynn	977	329	1,306	25%
Contracted Agencies	5	2	7	29%
Northeast	5,566	1,620	7,186	23%
Arlington	839	250	1,089	23%
Cambridge	648	224	872	26%
Coastal	804	314	1,118	28%
Framingham	728	239	967	25%
Malden	1,209	269	1,478	18%
Contracted Agencies	14	8	22	36%
Metro	4,242	1,304	5,546	24%
Attleboro	841	254	1,095	23%
Brockton	1,159	332	1,491	22%
Cape Cod	894	267	1,161	23%
Fall River	942	444	1,386	32%
New Bedford	1,417	350	1,767	20%
Plymouth	805	232	1,037	22%
Contracted Agencies	9	5	14	36%
Southeast	6,067	1,884	7,951	24%
Dimock St.	885	248	1,133	22%
Harbor	1,025	239	1,264	19%
Hyde Park	780	235	1,015	23%
Park St.	1,267	310	1,577	20%
Boston	3,957	1,032	4,989	21%
Adoption Contracts	1	267	268	100%
Other⁽²⁾	3	6	9	67%
Total	30,002	9,481	39,483	24%

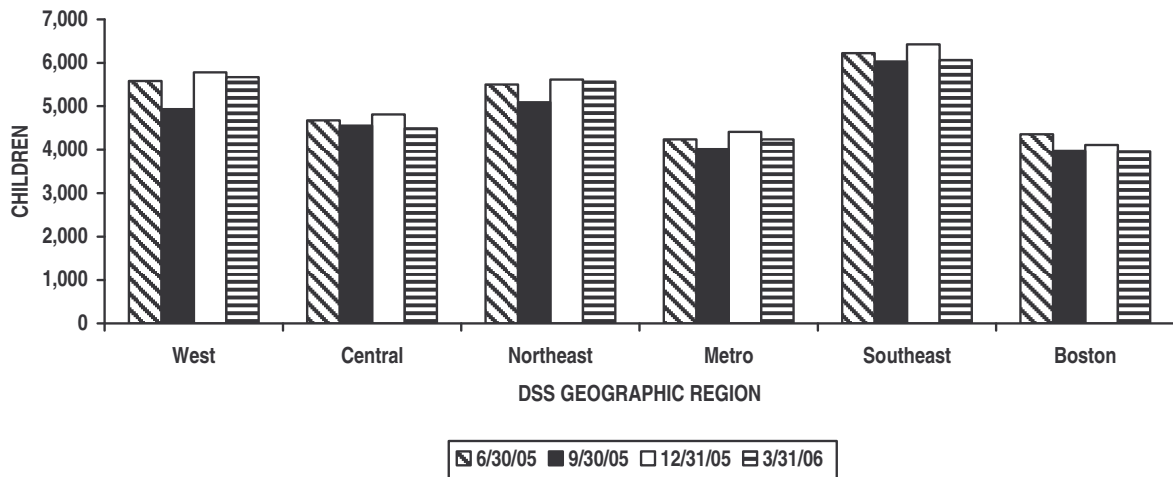
⁽¹⁾ Children are less than 18 years old.

⁽²⁾ Includes primarily families served through Central Office contracts.

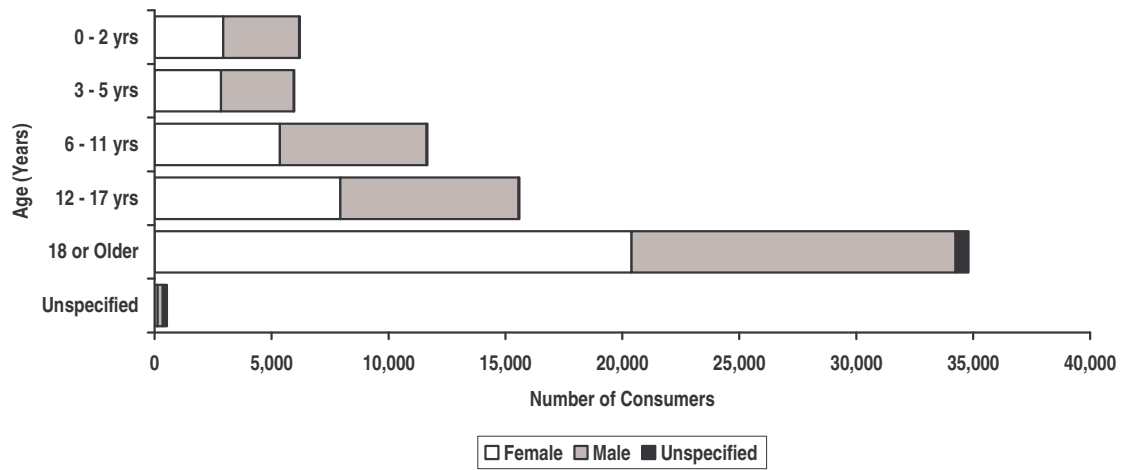
**FIGURE 3. CHILDREN IN PLACEMENT BY DSS REGION
(FY'2005, End of 4TH QUARTER to FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER)**



**FIGURE 4. CHILDREN NOT IN PLACEMENT BY DSS REGION
(FY'2005, End of 4TH QUARTER to FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER)**



**FIGURE 5. AGE AND SEX OF CONSUMERS: STATEWIDE
FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06)**



Age (Yrs)	Sex			Total
	Female	Male	Unspecified ⁽¹⁾	
0 - 2	2,929	3,244	36	6,209
3 - 5	2,840	3,114	24	5,978
6 - 11	5,352	6,270	43	11,665
12 - 17	7,941	7,627	35	15,603
18 or older	20,392	13,864	543	34,799
Unspecified ⁽¹⁾	135	212	178	525
Total	39,589	34,331	859	74,779

⁽¹⁾ Unspecified includes 497 adults and 28 children whose ages were unknown and 859 consumers whose gender was not specified as of the run date.

TABLE 3A. RACE OF CONSUMERS BY DSS REGION: FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06)

Race	DSS Geographic Region												Adoption		Other ⁽²⁾		Total	
	West		Central		Northeast		Metro		Southeast		Boston		Contracts ⁽¹⁾					
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
White	8,423	58%	6,833	64%	7,554	56%	6,809	62%	10,001	64%	2,013	22%	136	51%	2	7%	41,771	56%
Black	1,635	11%	904	8%	1,027	8%	1,704	15%	2,230	14%	4,359	47%	58	22%	22	76%	11,939	16%
Asian	57	*	94	1%	884	7%	197	2%	139	1%	195	2%	2	1%	---	---	1,568	2%
Native American	19	*	15	*	17	*	11	*	61	*	15	*	1	*	---	---	139	*
Other ⁽³⁾	14	*	3	*	11	*	2	*	8	*	5	*	---	---	---	---	43	*
Multi-Racial	335	2%	252	2%	292	2%	206	2%	346	2%	155	2%	22	8%	---	---	1,608	2%
Unspecified	3,935	27%	2,546	24%	3,683	27%	2,090	19%	2,908	19%	2,495	27%	49	18%	5	17%	17,711	24%
Total	14,418	100%	10,647	100%	13,468	100%	11,019	100%	15,693	100%	9,237	100%	268	100%	29	100%	74,779	100%

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off

⁽¹⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.⁽²⁾ Includes primarily families served through Central Office contracts.⁽³⁾ Includes Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islanders.

TABLE 3B. HISPANIC/LATINO ORIGIN OF CONSUMERS BY DSS REGION: FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06)

Origin	DSS Geographic Region												Adoption		Other ⁽³⁾		Total	
	West		Central		Northeast		Metro		Southeast		Boston		Contracts ⁽²⁾					
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Hispanic/Latino ⁽¹⁾	4,380	30%	2,505	24%	4,128	31%	1,498	14%	1,621	10%	2,577	28%	86	32%	1	3%	16,796	22%
Not Hispanic/Latino	7,286	51%	6,451	61%	7,510	56%	6,912	63%	10,644	68%	5,223	57%	167	62%	25	86%	44,218	59%
Unspecified	2,752	19%	1,691	16%	1,830	14%	2,609	24%	3,428	22%	1,437	16%	15	6%	3	10%	13,765	18%
Total	14,418	100%	10,647	100%	13,468	100%	11,019	100%	15,693	100%	9,237	100%	268	100%	29	100%	74,779	100%

Note: The summation of relative percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding-off.

⁽¹⁾ Consumers of any race who self-identify as being of Hispanic origin.⁽²⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.⁽³⁾ Includes primarily families served through Central Office contracts.

FIGURE 6A. REGIONAL PROPORTIONS OF CONSUMERS BY RACE
FY'06, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06)

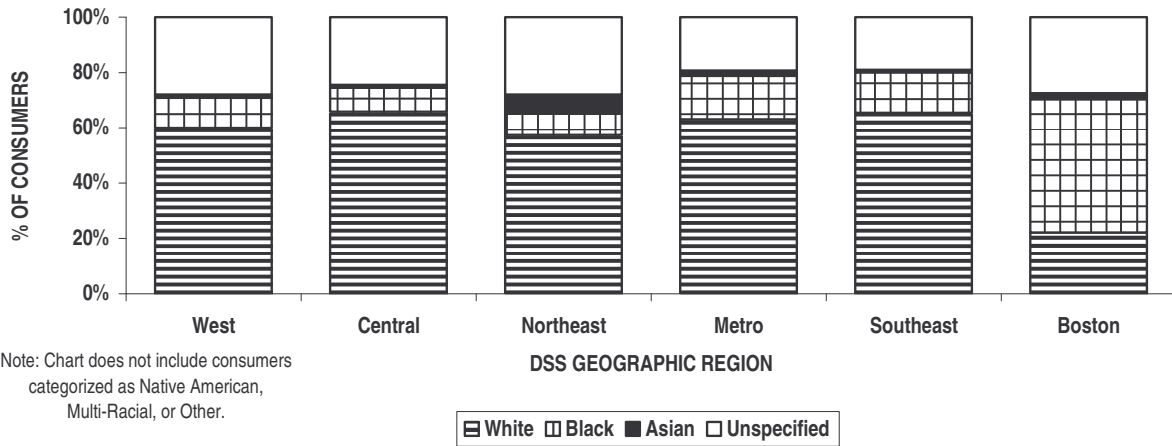


FIGURE 6B. REGIONAL COUNT OF CONSUMERS BY RACE
FY'06, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06)

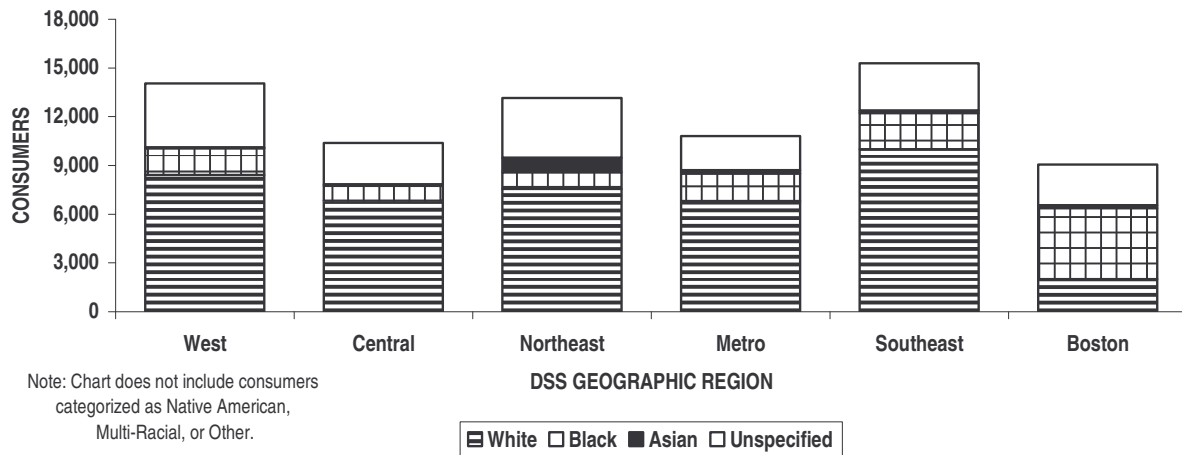


FIGURE 6C. REGIONAL PROPORTIONS OF CONSUMERS BY HISPANIC ORIGIN
FY'06, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06)

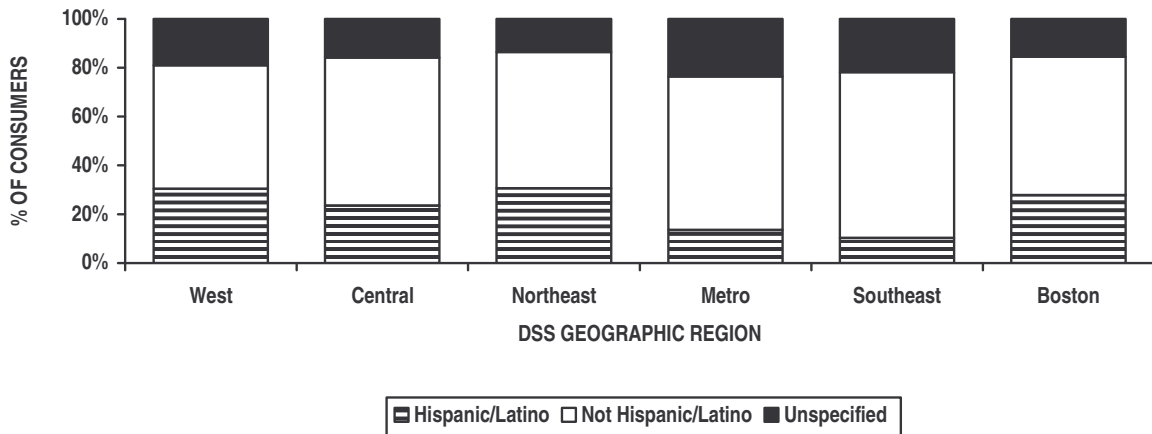


FIGURE 6D. REGIONAL COUNTS OF CONSUMERS BY HISPANIC ORIGIN
FY'06, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06)

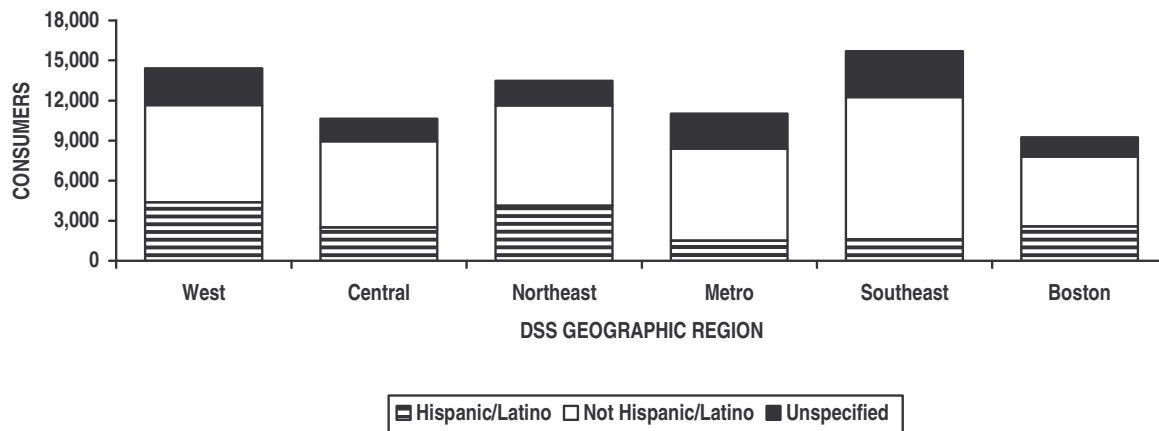


TABLE 4. PRIMARY LANGUAGE OF CONSUMERS BY DSS REGION: FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06)

Primary Language	DSS Geographic Region														Adoption				Total	
	West		Central		Northeast		Metro		Southeast		Boston		Contracts ⁽¹⁾		Other ⁽²⁾					
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Spanish	1,087	8%	502	5%	1,120	8%	405	4%	315	2%	709	8%	21	8%	2	7%	4,161	6%		
Khmer (Cambodian)	4	*	2	*	319	2%	2	*	59	*	12	*	---	---	---	---	398	1%		
Portuguese	4	*	14	*	44	*	97	1%	86	1%	33	*	---	---	---	---	278	*		
Haitian Creole	---	---	3	*	8	*	122	1%	54	*	63	1%	---	---	---	---	250	*		
Vietnamese	9	*	32	*	22	*	25	*	2	*	50	1%	---	---	---	---	140	*		
Cape Verdean Creole	---	---	---	---	---	---	4	*	87	1%	42	*	---	---	---	---	133	*		
Chinese	1	*	1	*	---	---	29	*	5	*	13	*	---	---	---	---	49	*		
Lao	---	---	2	*	14	*	---	---	---	---	2	*	---	---	---	---	18	*		
American Sign Lang.	1	*	2	*	8	*	7	*	9	*	4	*	---	---	---	---	31	*		
Other	412	3%	234	2%	172	1%	198	2%	359	2%	202	2%	2	1%	14	48%	1,593	2%		
EnglishUnspecified	12,900	89%	9,855	93%	11,761	87%	10,130	92%	14,717	94%	8,107	88%	245	91%	13	45%	67,728	91%		
Total	14,418	100%	10,647	100%	13,468	100%	11,019	100%	15,693	100%	9,237	100%	268	100%	29	100%	74,779	100%		

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off

Note: The summation of relative percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding-off.

⁽¹⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.

⁽²⁾ Includes primarily families served through Central Office contracts.

Profile of Consumers in Placement⁴

Foster and Residential Care

- There were 7,961 consumers in foster care and 2,300 consumers in residential care on the last day of the 3rd Quarter of FY'2006. Foster care populations were highest in the Western and Southeastern Regions. The number of consumers in residential care was greatest in the Metro, Northeastern, and Southeastern Regions. **(Table 5A)**
- The largest age group in foster care was 12-17 years (34-41% range across regions). Among regions, the West, Southeast, and Northeast had the highest numbers of adolescents in foster care, 731, 581, and 517, respectively. **(Table 5A)**
- Adolescents were the primary age group in residential care, ranging from 66% to 76% across the regions. The Metro, Northeastern, and Southeastern Regions had the largest adolescent populations in residential care, 369, 337, and 293, respectively. **(Table 5A)**
- Consumers in “Other” placement locations⁵ were primarily adolescents (75-91% regional range). **(Table 5A)**
- There were 1,883 consumers in “Contracted” foster care and 6,078 consumers in “Departmental” foster care. Contracted foster care was primarily therapeutic (94% of the consumers). Departmental foster care was separated into unrestricted (38%), kinship (34%), child specific (13%), pre-adoptive (7%), and independent living (9%). **(Table 5B)**
- Regionally, the West had the largest number of consumers in unrestricted, child-specific, and pre-adoptive foster care. Consumers in kinship care were highest in the Southeast. The Northeast had the most consumers in independent living. **(Fig. 7B, Table 5B)**
- The proportions of consumers in different types of departmental foster care are displayed for each region in Figure 7A. Consumers in unrestricted homes were most prevalent in the West. The Southeast had the largest proportion of consumers in kinship homes. Consumers in child-specific homes were most evident in Metro and Boston. The Western Region had the highest proportion of consumers in pre-adoptive homes. Consumers in independent living were proportionally higher in Boston and the Northeast as compared to the other regions. **(Fig. 7A)**

⁴ Consumers include children less than 18 years old and young adults 18 to 23 years old.

⁵ “Other” includes non-referral locations like hospitals and other state agencies, as well as children on the run from placement.

- The major residential programs were residential treatment (1,330 consumers) and group homes (970 consumers). (**Table 5C**)
- The proportions of consumers in different types of residential care are shown for each region in Figure 8A. The Western and Boston Regions had the highest proportions of consumers in group homes. The proportion of consumers in residential treatment was most significant in the Northeast, Metro, and Central. Shelter children were more prevalent in the Southeast. (**Fig. 8A**)
- The number of consumers in group homes was fairly evenly divided among the DSS regions. Metro and the Northeast had the most consumers in residential treatment. The Southeast had the most children in shelters. (**Fig. 8B**)
- Consumers in residential treatment were mostly situated in Chapter 766 facilities⁶ while the leading group home model was Regular.⁷ (**Table 5C**)
- Over the past three quarters, there have been small increases of 1-2% in the foster care population statewide. During this period, counts of foster children in each DSS region displayed a slight upward trend (**Fig. 9**). In contrast, the residential care population underwent the following quarterly changes: -14%, 10%, and -2%. For the most part, the DSS regions followed the statewide pattern for residential care, but differed in the magnitude of the fluctuations. At least part of the movement is related to the ending of the Commonworks residential care program during the 1st Quarter of FY'2006. (**Fig. 10**).

All Placement Locations (Combined Counts)

- At the end of the 3rd Quarter of FY'2006, the statewide placement population was comprised of 51% boys and 49% girls. Regionally, the gender difference showed little deviation from the state. (**Table 6A, Fig. 11A**)
- Statewide, 60% of all consumers in placement were White, 20% were Black, 1% were Asian, less than 1% were Native American, and 4% were multi-racial. Race was unspecified for 14% of the placement population. (**Table 6A, Fig. 11A**)

⁶ Chapter 766 includes facilities geared toward children/adolescents who require special needs educational services on-site. These facilities are licensed by the Department of Education.

⁷ Regular is comprised of programs that provide services in home-like settings with typically 8 to 12 children/adolescents in residence.

- The proportion of minority consumers in placement was highest in the Boston Region. **(Table 6A)**
- Of the total placement population, 25% (2,669 consumers) self-identified as being of Hispanic origin. Hispanic consumers were most prevalent in the Western and Northeastern Regions. **(Table 6A, Fig. 11A)**
- Race was unspecified for a relatively large number of consumers in placement in the Western and Northeastern Regions. These high values may be attributable to the large number of Hispanic consumers in placement, who do not self-identify with any of the racial categories. **(Table 6A)**
- Adolescents were the largest age group in placement in each of the DSS Regions. The proportion of adolescents ranged from 45% in the Southeastern, Western, and Central Regions to 52% in the Boston Region. **(Table 6B)**
- The number of young adults (18 years or older) in placement ranged from 129 in the Central Region to 271 in the Northeastern Region. **(Table 6B)**
- The most prominent service plan goals of consumers in placement were “Family Reunification” (31% of all consumers in placement) and “Adoption” (24%). Regionally, the Southeast had the highest number and proportion of consumers in placement with a goal of reunifying the family. The West had the highest number and proportion of consumers in placement with a goal of adoption. **(Table 6B, Fig. 11B)**
- Statewide, 40% of the placement population had been in continuous care⁸ for more than 2 years, 20% between 1 and 2 years, and 40% for 1 year or less. **(Table 6B, Fig. 11B)**
- The Northeastern, Boston, and Western Regions had the highest proportions of consumers in continuous⁹ care for more than two years (42%, 42%, and 41%, respectively). Metro, Central, and Southeast had the highest proportions of consumers in care for one year or less (44%, 43%, and 42%, respectively). The Southeast and West had the largest numbers of consumers in care for one year or less (895 and 888, respectively). The West had the largest number of consumers in care for more than two years (957). **(Table 6B)**

⁸ Length of stay in placement, as measured by a “point-in-time snapshot” of consumers residing in care, is not representative of all individuals who spend time in care during some specified period. It is biased because consumers in continuous long-term placement are over-represented in “snapshot” counts and many others who enter and leave placement quickly are not counted at all.

⁹ Continuous time in care is defined as the span of time from the child’s most recent placement entry to the Quarter End Date (March 31, 2006).

- Tables 7A and 7B display the race and Hispanic origin of consumers in placement by their length of time in continuous care. There was a tendency for a greater proportion of minority consumers to be in care for more than two years as compared to White consumers (45% for Asian, 44% for Black, 43% for Hispanic vs. 39% for White). (**Tables 7A and 7B**)
- At the end of the 3rd Quarter of FY'2006 ("snapshot" on 3/31/06), the median time in continuous care was 1.3 years and the median¹⁰ age was 12.6 years for all children less than 18 years old in placement. Over the past 15 years, the median age of children in care has slowly increased while the median time in placement has been fairly stable (See table below).

All Children in Placement ¹¹			
Date	Median Age (yrs)	Median Continuous Time in Placement (yrs)	Number of Children
7/92	9.2	1.5	12,311
7/93	9.3	1.6	12,577
7/94	9.1	1.4	12,977
7/95	9.2	1.3	13,056
7/96	9.7	1.4	12,643
7/97	10.2	1.4	11,957
9/98*	10.5	1.4	10,872
6/99*	11.0	1.2	10,134
6/00*	11.2	1.5	9,676
6/01*	11.5	1.4	9,955
6/02	11.9	1.5	10,033
6/03	12.2	1.5	10,233
6/04	12.3	1.5	9,829
6/05	12.6	1.4	9,474
9/05	12.3	1.3	9,220
12/05	12.7	1.3	9,451
3/06	12.6	1.3	9,481

¹⁰ Half of the children are younger than the median and half are older.

¹¹ Children are less than 18 years old.

- A racial and Hispanic origin breakdown of children in placement is presented in the following table. Minority children tend to be older and have spent a longer length of time in placement.

All Children in Placement¹² on 3/31/06			
Race	Median Age (yrs)	Median Continuous Time in Placement (yrs)	Number of Children
White	12.5	1.2	5,711
Black	13.6	1.4	1,788
Asian	15.2	1.5	128
Native American	14.8	1.5	23
Pacific Islander	12.5	0.2	5
Multi-Racial	7.6	1.2	402
Unknown	12.0	1.2	1,424
TOTAL	12.6	1.3	9,481
Hispanic Origin ¹³	12.4	1.4	2,441

Consumers in Placement with a Goal of Adoption

- Out of 2,533 consumers in placement with a goal of adoption, 1,524 (61%) were White, 424 (17%) were Black, 18 (1%) were Asian, and 141 (6%) were multi-racial. Race was unspecified for 17%. Twenty-eight percent (713) of all consumers in placement with a goal of adoption were of Hispanic origin. **(Tables 8A and 8B, Fig. 12A)**
- The age distribution of 2,533 consumers in placement with a goal of adoption was: 25% age 0-2 years, 23% age 3-5 years, 37% age 6-11 years, and 15% age 12-17 years. **(Table 8C, Fig. 12A)**
- Fifty-two percent of the consumers with a goal of adoption were male and 48% were female. **(Fig. 12A)**
- Fifty-two percent of the consumers in placement with a goal of adoption had been in continuous placement for more than two years. **(Table 8D, Fig. 12A)**
- Forty-three percent of the consumers in placement with a goal of guardianship had been in continuous placement for more than two years. **(Table 8D)**

¹² Children are less than 18 years old.

¹³ Children of any race who are Hispanic

- There has been a decline in the number of children¹⁴ in placement with a goal of adoption since 1994 (peak value of 4,522). In 1997, this group of “waiting” children fell below 4,000 for the first time since 1991. In general, changes in the number of children with a goal of adoption have coincided with changes in the placement population. (See table below)
- The proportion of “waiting” children reached its highest level in 1994 (35%). Since 1994, the proportion of children with a goal of adoption has dropped to 27-28%. (See table below)

Date	Children in Placement	Children in Placement with a Goal of Adoption	% of Children with a Goal of Adoption
7/91	12,397	3,541	29%
7/92	12,311	4,116	33%
7/93	12,577	4,244	34%
7/94	12,977	4,522	35%
7/95	13,056	4,352	33%
7/96	12,463	4,251	34%
7/97	11,957	3,673	31%
1/98	11,170	3,489	31%
9/98	10,872*	NA	NA
6/99	10,134*	3,118	31%
6/00	9,676*	3,089	32%
6/01	9,955*	2,859	29%
6/02	10,033	2,844	28%
6/03	10,233	2,864*	28%
6/04	9,829	2,761*	28%
6/05	9,474	2,569	27%
9/05	9,220	2,597	28%
12/05	9,451	2,560	27%
3/06	9,481	2,530	27%

Notes: **Children are less than 18 years old.**

* = revised statistics

¹⁴ Children are less than 18 years old.

- Of the 2,533 “waiting” consumers in placement with a goal of adoption, 41% were legally free for adoption. Eighty percent of the freed children were matched to a permanent family. (**Fig. 12B**)
- The age distribution for consumers legally free for adoption was similar to the age group distribution for all consumers with a goal of adoption (See below and Fig. 12A). However, there does appear to be a slight tendency for older children to be freed. A bias toward older children may be a reflection of the time required to terminate parental rights – the more time it takes to free a child, the older the child is when freed.

Age Group (years)	Children Legally Free for Adoption		All Children with a Goal of Adoption	
	No.	%	No.	%
0 – 2	233	23%	624	25%
3 – 5	217	21%	589	23%
6 – 11	387	38%	946	37%
12 – 17	189	18%	371	15%
Total	1,026	100%	2,530	100%

Note: These children are less than 18 years old. All children 18 years or older are free for adoption.

- Of those children who were not legally free for adoption (59%), 71% were matched to permanent families (**Fig. 12B**).
- The Southeastern Region had the highest proportion (52%) of “waiting” children who were legally free for adoption. The Western and Southeastern Regions had the highest proportions of “waiting” children who were matched to a permanent family, 88% and 81%, respectively. (**Figs. 12C and 12D**)

TABLE 5A. CONSUMERS IN PLACEMENT - AGE AND LOCATION BY DSS REGION: FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06)

		Placement Location of Consumers						
DSS Geographic Region ⁽¹⁾	Age Group	Foster Care		Residential Care		Other ⁽²⁾		Total No.
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
Western		1,916		290		118		2,324
	(0 - 2 yrs)	311	16%	3	1%	1	1%	315
	(3 - 5 yrs)	270	14%	3	1%	2	2%	275
	(6 - 11 yrs)	441	23%	30	10%	10	8%	481
	(12 - 17 yrs)	731	38%	219	76%	101	86%	1,051
	18 or older	163	9%	35	12%	4	3%	202
Central		1,023		301		51		1,375
	(0 - 2 yrs)	174	17%	---	---	1	2%	175
	(3 - 5 yrs)	158	15%	3	1%	---	---	161
	(6 - 11 yrs)	233	23%	48	16%	8	16%	289
	(12 - 17 yrs)	363	35%	220	73%	38	75%	621
	18 or older	95	9%	30	10%	4	8%	129
Northeast		1,318		478		95		1,891
	(0 - 2 yrs)	171	13%	2	*	2	2%	175
	(3 - 5 yrs)	137	10%	2	*	1	1%	140
	(6 - 11 yrs)	302	23%	61	13%	2	2%	365
	(12 - 17 yrs)	517	39%	337	71%	86	91%	940
	18 or older	191	14%	76	16%	4	4%	271
Metro		954		501		60		1,515
	(0 - 2 yrs)	159	17%	2	*	2	3%	163
	(3 - 5 yrs)	128	13%	3	1%	---	---	131
	(6 - 11 yrs)	212	22%	53	11%	6	10%	271
	(12 - 17 yrs)	322	34%	369	74%	48	80%	739
	18 or older	133	14%	74	15%	4	7%	211
Southeast		1,648		388		88		2,124
	(0 - 2 yrs)	302	18%	1	*	1	1%	304
	(3 - 5 yrs)	216	13%	3	1%	1	1%	220
	(6 - 11 yrs)	356	22%	49	13%	8	9%	413
	(12 - 17 yrs)	581	35%	293	76%	73	83%	947
	18 or older	193	12%	42	11%	5	6%	240
Boston		815		341		94		1,250
	(0 - 2 yrs)	128	16%	---	---	---	---	128
	(3 - 5 yrs)	84	10%	4	1%	---	---	88
	(6 - 11 yrs)	130	16%	37	11%	8	9%	175
	(12 - 17 yrs)	336	41%	226	66%	79	84%	641
	18 or older	137	17%	74	22%	7	7%	218
Adoption Contracts ⁽³⁾		264		1		2		267
	(0 - 2 yrs)	39	15%	---	---	---	---	39
	(3 - 5 yrs)	63	24%	---	---	---	---	63
	(6 - 11 yrs)	111	42%	1	100%	2	100%	114
	(12 - 17 yrs)	51	19%	---	---	---	---	51
Other ⁽⁴⁾		23						23
	(6 - 11 yrs)	2	9%	---	---	---	---	2
	(12 - 17 yrs)	4	17%	---	---	---	---	4
	18 or older	17	74%	---	---	---	---	17
Total		7,961		2,300		508		10,769

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off

Note: The summation of relative percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding-off.

⁽¹⁾ Region having responsibility for the case (child could be placed in another DSS Region).

⁽²⁾ "Other" includes locations such as hospitals and other state agencies, as well as consumers on the run from placement.

⁽³⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.

⁽⁴⁾ Includes primarily families served through Central Office contracts.

TABLE 5B. CONSUMERS IN FOSTER CARE - AGE AND LOCATION BY DSS REGION: FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06)

		Foster Care													Foster Care Total
DSS Geographic Region ⁽¹⁾	Age Group	Contracted Foster Care						Departmental Foster Care							
		Diagnostic	Emergency Shelter	Enhanced Therapeutic	Family Residence	Independent Living	Other	Therapeutic	Child Specific	Independent Living	Kinship	Pre-Adoptive	Unrestricted		
Western		6	14	2	13	11	---	411	179	88	410	141	641	1,916	
	(0 - 2 yrs)	---	2	---	1	---	---	7	16	---	87	57	141	311	
	(3 - 5 yrs)	---	---	---	---	---	---	12	19	---	85	38	116	270	
	(6 - 11 yrs)	---	1	1	1	---	---	89	43	---	122	37	147	441	
	(12 - 17 yrs)	6	11	1	11	---	---	269	87	5	104	8	229	731	
	18 or older	---	---	---	---	11	---	34	14	83	12	1	8	163	
Central		---	6	1	---	---	1	225	97	41	261	59	332	1,023	
	(0 - 2 yrs)	---	---	---	---	---	---	9	8	---	50	23	84	174	
	(3 - 5 yrs)	---	---	---	---	---	---	9	9	---	56	20	64	158	
	(6 - 11 yrs)	---	---	1	---	---	---	40	30	---	63	12	87	233	
	(12 - 17 yrs)	---	6	---	---	---	---	146	43	---	85	4	79	363	
	18 or older	---	---	---	---	---	1	21	7	41	7	---	18	95	
Northeast		2	2	---	6	---	12	357	115	131	347	27	319	1,318	
	(0 - 2 yrs)	---	1	---	---	---	---	28	11	---	55	7	69	171	
	(3 - 5 yrs)	1	---	---	---	---	---	18	10	---	53	4	51	137	
	(6 - 11 yrs)	1	---	---	---	---	---	76	35	---	124	13	53	302	
	(12 - 17 yrs)	---	1	---	6	---	7	207	51	6	109	3	127	517	
	18 or older	---	---	---	---	---	5	28	8	125	6	---	19	191	
Metro		---	2	1	6	2	---	216	101	71	273	52	230	954	
	(0 - 2 yrs)	---	1	---	---	---	---	16	6	---	64	16	56	159	
	(3 - 5 yrs)	---	---	---	---	---	---	17	13	---	42	19	37	128	
	(6 - 11 yrs)	---	1	1	1	---	---	46	27	---	85	13	38	212	
	(12 - 17 yrs)	---	---	---	4	2	---	122	40	---	71	4	79	322	
	18 or older	---	---	---	1	---	---	15	15	71	11	---	20	133	
Southeast		---	8	1	2	---	---	313	143	116	516	48	501	1,648	
	(0 - 2 yrs)	---	---	---	---	---	---	10	16	---	100	19	157	302	
	(3 - 5 yrs)	---	1	---	---	---	---	12	15	---	86	17	85	216	
	(6 - 11 yrs)	---	2	1	---	---	---	51	31	---	148	11	112	356	
	(12 - 17 yrs)	---	5	---	1	---	---	205	62	3	169	1	135	581	
	18 or older	---	---	---	1	---	---	35	19	113	13	---	12	193	
Boston		---	14	1	1	---	---	193	86	91	189	26	214	815	
	(0 - 2 yrs)	---	1	---	---	---	---	9	12	---	40	11	55	128	
	(3 - 5 yrs)	---	---	---	---	---	---	15	10	---	28	8	23	84	
	(6 - 11 yrs)	---	1	1	1	---	---	37	12	---	49	5	24	130	
	(12 - 17 yrs)	---	12	---	---	---	---	120	43	1	63	2	95	336	
	18 or older	---	---	---	---	---	---	12	9	90	9	---	17	137	
Adoption Contracts ⁽²⁾		---	---	---	---	---	---	54	41	---	45	63	61	264	
	(0 - 2 yrs)	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	6	---	12	12	8	39	
	(3 - 5 yrs)	---	---	---	---	---	---	8	11	---	14	13	17	63	
	(6 - 11 yrs)	---	---	---	---	---	---	24	14	---	16	29	28	111	
	(12 - 17 yrs)	---	---	---	---	---	---	21	10	---	3	9	8	51	
Other ⁽³⁾		---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	9	2	---	11	23	
	(6 - 11 yrs)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	1	2	
	(12 - 17 yrs)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	3	4	
	18 or older	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	9	---	---	7	17	
Total		8	46	6	28	13	13	1,769	763	547	2,043	416	2,309	7,961	

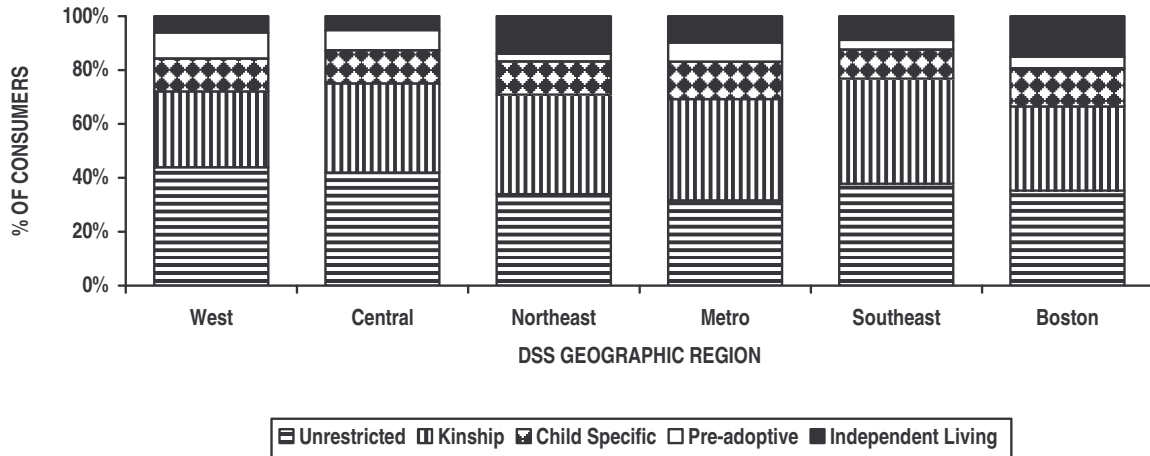
⁽¹⁾ Region having responsibility for the case (child could be placed in another DSS Region).⁽²⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.⁽³⁾ Includes primarily families served through Central Office contracts.

TABLE 5C. CONSUMERS IN RESIDENTIAL CARE - AGE AND LOCATION BY DSS REGION: FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06)

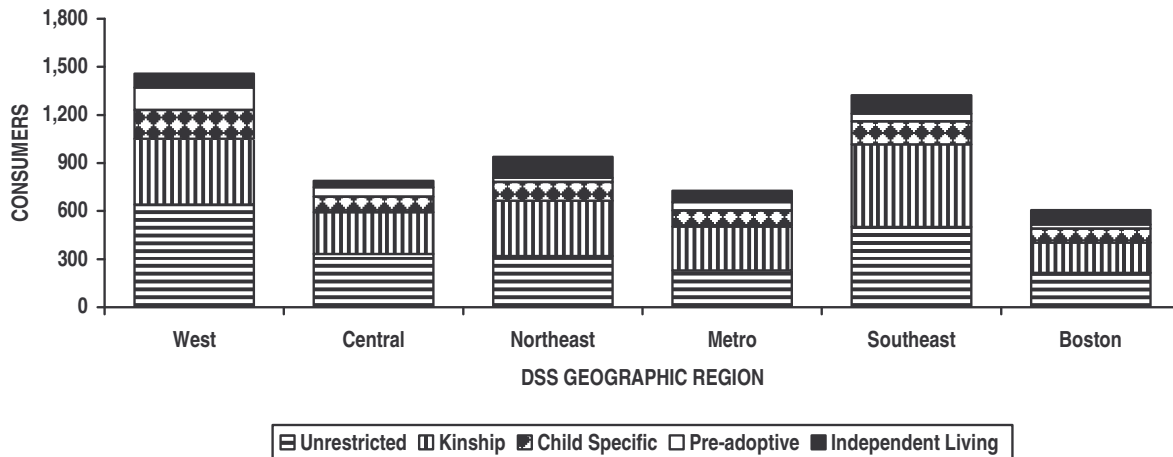
DSS Geographic Region ⁽¹⁾		Residential Care											Residential Care Total
		Group Home						Residential Treatment				Shelter	
		Bridge Home	Independent Living	Other ⁽²⁾	Regular	Teen Pregnancy/ Parenting	Transitional Living	Ch. 766	Diagnostic	Non-766	Other ⁽²⁾		
Western	Age Group	20	9	3	141	3	---	85	4	1	8	16	290
	(0 - 2 yrs)	3	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	3
	(3 - 5 yrs)	3	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	3
	(6 - 11 yrs)	3	---	---	6	---	---	19	1	---	---	1	30
	(12 - 17 yrs)	11	2	1	119	3	---	56	3	1	8	15	219
	18 or older	---	7	2	16	---	---	10	---	---	---	---	35
Central		17	6	---	91	3	---	133	17	10	14	10	301
	(3-5yrs)	2	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	3
	(6-11yrs)	8	---	---	4	---	---	24	3	---	8	1	48
	(12-17yrs)	7	4	---	73	1	---	99	14	10	3	9	220
	18 or older	---	2	---	13	2	---	10	---	---	3	---	30
Northeast		13	39	---	126	---	---	218	53	1	22	6	478
	(0 - 2 yrs)	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	2
	(3 - 5 yrs)	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	2
	(6 - 11 yrs)	5	---	---	9	---	---	38	4	---	5	---	61
	(12 - 17 yrs)	6	11	---	104	---	---	148	47	1	14	6	337
	18 or older	---	28	---	13	---	---	32	---	---	3	---	76
Metro		16	42	1	113	4	5	212	52	13	28	15	501
	(0 - 2 yrs)	---	---	---	1	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	2
	(3 - 5 yrs)	2	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	3
	(6 - 11 yrs)	6	---	---	6	---	---	34	5	---	2	---	53
	(12 - 17 yrs)	8	11	---	95	2	3	153	45	13	24	15	369
	18 or older	---	31	1	11	1	2	25	1	---	2	---	74
Southeast		15	16	---	99	7	---	178	16	3	10	44	388
	(0 - 2 yrs)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	1
	(3 - 5 yrs)	1	---	---	---	---	---	2	---	---	---	---	3
	(6 - 11 yrs)	8	---	---	12	---	---	26	1	---	2	---	49
	(12 - 17 yrs)	6	7	---	81	4	---	130	14	2	5	44	293
	18 or older	---	9	---	6	3	---	20	---	1	3	---	42
Boston		20	41	1	110	7	1	138	5	---	9	9	341
	(3 - 5 yrs)	4	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	4
	(6 - 11 yrs)	6	---	---	15	---	---	15	---	---	1	---	37
	(12 - 17 yrs)	10	15	---	79	5	1	100	4	---	3	9	226
	18 or older	---	26	1	16	2	---	23	1	---	5	---	74
Adoption Contracts ⁽³⁾		1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1
	(6 - 11 yrs)	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1
Total		102	153	5	680	24	6	964	147	28	91	100	2,300

⁽¹⁾ Region having responsibility for the case (child could be placed in another DSS Region).⁽²⁾ Sites/facilities that differ from the other types of group homes or residential treatment facilities.⁽³⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.

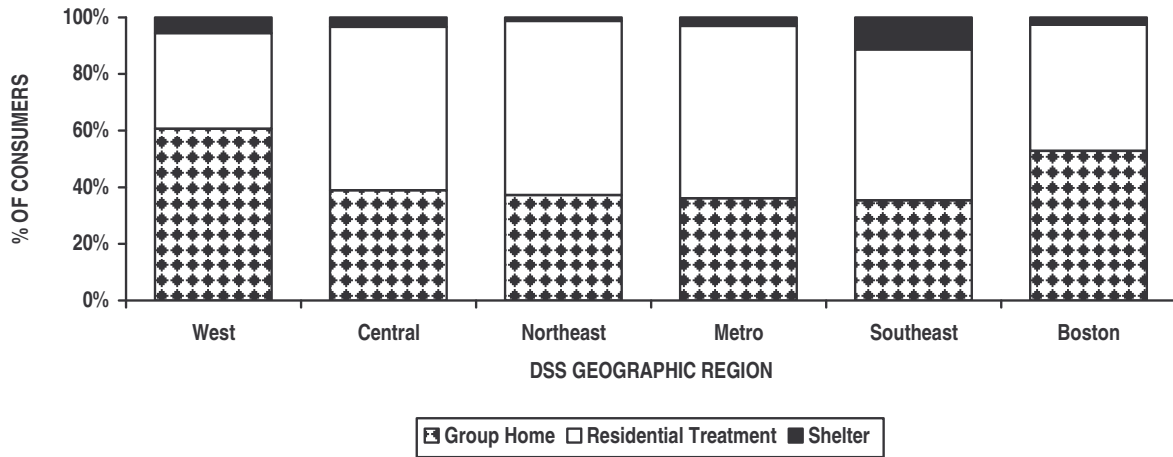
**FIGURE 7A. REGIONAL PROPORTIONS OF CONSUMERS
IN DEPARTMENTAL FOSTER CARE BY TYPE OF LOCATION
FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06)**



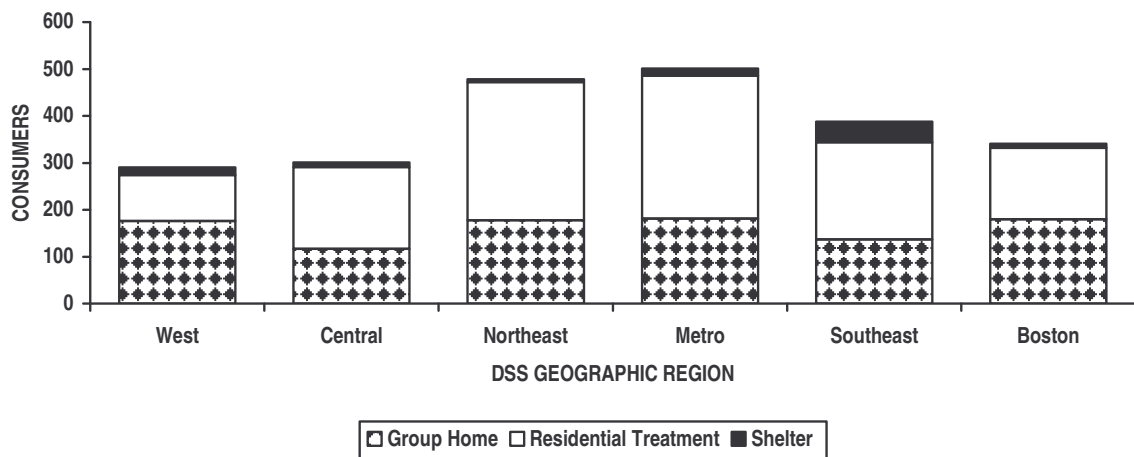
**FIGURE 7B. REGIONAL COUNTS OF CONSUMERS
IN DEPARTMENTAL FOSTER CARE BY TYPE OF LOCATION
FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06)**



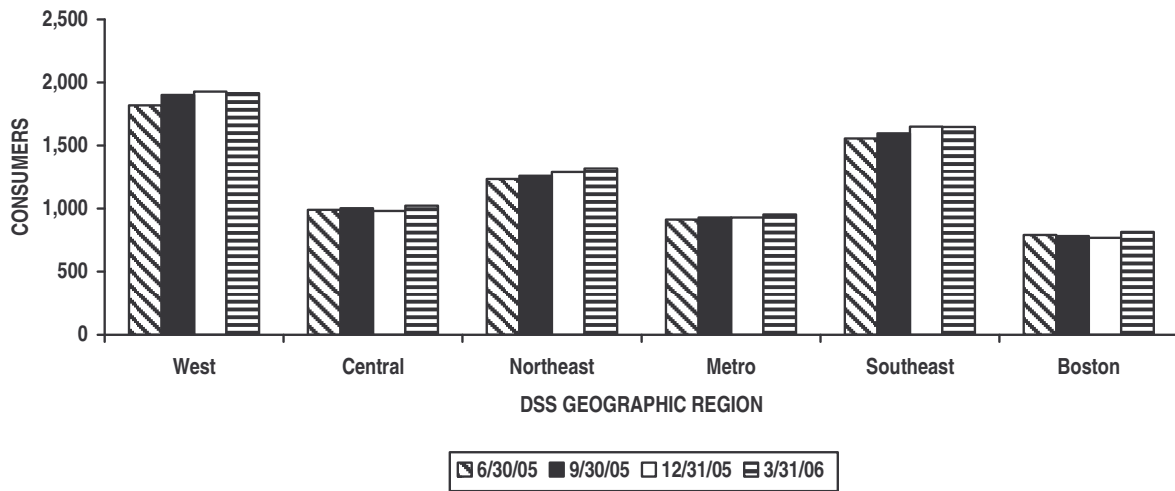
**FIGURE 8A. REGIONAL PROPORTIONS OF CONSUMERS
IN RESIDENTIAL CARE BY TYPE OF LOCATION
FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06)**



**FIGURE 8B. REGIONAL COUNTS OF CONSUMERS
IN RESIDENTIAL CARE BY TYPE OF LOCATION
FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06)**



**FIGURE 9. CONSUMERS IN FOSTER CARE BY DSS REGION
(FY'2005, End of 4TH QUARTER to FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER)**



**FIGURE 10. CONSUMERS IN RESIDENTIAL CARE BY DSS REGION
(FY'2005, End of 4TH QUARTER to FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER)**

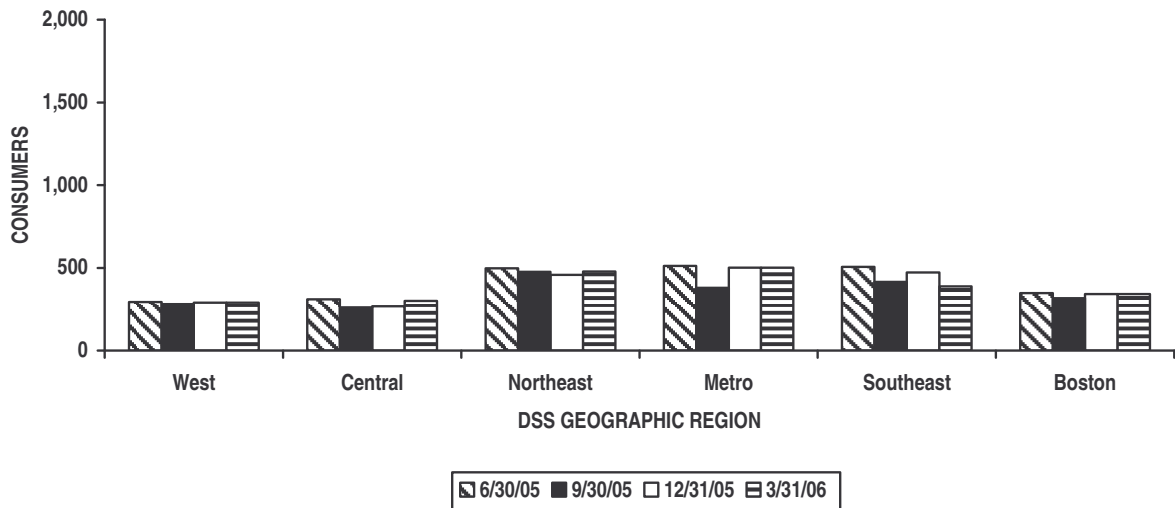


TABLE 6A. CONSUMERS IN PLACEMENT: SEX, RACE, AND HISPANIC ORIGIN BY DSS REGIONS AND STATE: FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06)

Characteristics	DSS Geographic Region												Adoption Contracts ⁽¹⁾ Other ⁽²⁾				Total	
	West		Central		Northeast		Metro		Southeast		Boston							
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Sex:																		
Female	1,120	48%	662	48%	907	48%	742	49%	1,032	49%	639	51%	134	50%	7	30%	5,243	49%
Male	1,204	52%	713	52%	984	52%	773	51%	1,092	51%	611	49%	133	50%	16	70%	5,526	51%
Total	2,324	100%	1,375	100%	1,891	100%	1,515	100%	2,124	100%	1,250	100%	267	100%	23	100%	10,769	100%
Race:																		
White	1,504	65%	947	69%	1,151	61%	1,013	67%	1,411	66%	306	24%	136	51%	---	---	6,468	60%
Black	317	14%	168	12%	198	10%	293	19%	380	18%	702	56%	58	22%	19	83%	2,135	20%
Asian	5	*	8	1%	96	5%	20	1%	16	1%	14	1%	1	*	---	---	160	1%
Native American	5	*	2	*	2	*	1	*	11	1%	2	*	1	*	---	---	24	*
Other ⁽³⁾	3	*	2	*	---	---	1	*	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	6	*
Multi-Racial	78	3%	58	4%	73	4%	57	4%	102	5%	38	3%	22	8%	---	---	428	4%
Unspecified	412	18%	190	14%	371	20%	130	9%	204	10%	188	15%	49	18%	4	17%	1,548	14%
Total	2,324	100%	1,375	100%	1,891	100%	1,515	100%	2,124	100%	1,250	100%	267	100%	23	100%	10,769	100%
Hispanic/Latino Origin:																		
Hispanic/Latino	860	37%	334	24%	613	32%	228	15%	255	12%	292	23%	86	32%	1	4%	2,669	25%
Not Hispanic/Latino	1,342	58%	973	71%	1,212	64%	1,227	81%	1,763	83%	906	72%	166	62%	19	83%	7,608	71%
Unspecified	122	5%	68	5%	66	3%	60	4%	106	5%	52	4%	15	6%	3	13%	492	5%
Total	2,324	100%	1,375	100%	1,891	100%	1,515	100%	2,124	100%	1,250	100%	267	100%	23	100%	10,769	100%

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off

Note: The summation of relative percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding-off.

⁽¹⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.⁽²⁾ Includes primarily families served through Central Office contracts.⁽³⁾ Includes Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islanders.

TABLE 6B. CONSUMERS IN PLACEMENT: AGE, SERVICE PLAN GOAL, AND CONTINUOUS TIME IN CARE BY DSS REGIONS AND STATE:
FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06)

Characteristics	DSS Geographic Region												Adoption				Total	
	West		Central		Northeast		Metro		Southeast		Boston		Contracts ⁽¹⁾		Other ⁽²⁾			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Age:																		
(0 - 2 yrs)	315	14%	175	13%	175	9%	163	11%	304	14%	128	10%	39	15%	---	---	1,299	12%
(3 - 5 yrs)	275	12%	161	12%	140	7%	131	9%	220	10%	88	7%	63	24%	---	---	1,078	10%
(6 - 11 yrs)	481	21%	289	21%	365	19%	271	18%	413	19%	175	14%	114	43%	2	9%	2,110	20%
(12 - 17 yrs)	1,051	45%	621	45%	940	50%	739	49%	947	45%	641	51%	51	19%	4	17%	4,994	46%
18 or older	202	9%	129	9%	271	14%	211	14%	240	11%	218	17%	---	---	17	74%	1,288	12%
Total	2,324	100%	1,375	100%	1,891	100%	1,515	100%	2,124	100%	1,250	100%	267	100%	23	100%	10,769	100%
Service Plan Goals:																		
Reunify Family	656	28%	470	34%	617	33%	537	35%	764	36%	342	27%	1	*	---	---	3,387	31%
Adoption	598	26%	354	26%	374	20%	251	17%	458	22%	240	19%	258	97%	---	---	2,533	24%
Living Independently	387	17%	197	14%	372	20%	301	20%	415	20%	345	28%	---	---	19	83%	2,036	19%
Long-Term Substitute Care	329	14%	169	12%	287	15%	198	13%	220	10%	124	10%	---	---	---	---	1,327	12%
Stabilize Intact Family	136	6%	64	5%	111	6%	78	5%	82	4%	59	5%	---	---	---	---	530	5%
Guardianship	127	5%	81	6%	49	3%	74	5%	110	5%	64	5%	6	2%	---	---	511	5%
Long-Term Care w/Adult Serv. Agen.	59	3%	30	2%	55	3%	45	3%	63	3%	60	5%	2	1%	---	---	314	3%
Unspecified	32	1%	10	1%	26	1%	31	2%	12	1%	16	1%	---	---	4	17%	131	1%
Total	2,324	100%	1,375	100%	1,891	100%	1,515	100%	2,124	100%	1,250	100%	267	100%	23	100%	10,769	100%
Continuous Time in Care:																		
(.5 yr or less)	516	22%	354	26%	445	24%	412	27%	506	24%	293	23%	4	1%	1	4%	2,531	24%
(> .5 - 1 yr)	372	16%	228	17%	280	15%	253	17%	389	18%	188	15%	16	6%	---	---	1,726	16%
(> 1 - 1.5 yrs)	263	11%	153	11%	199	11%	181	12%	266	13%	132	11%	40	15%	2	9%	1,236	11%
(> 1.5 - 2 yrs)	216	9%	120	9%	168	9%	153	10%	222	10%	103	8%	23	9%	6	26%	1,011	9%
(> 2 - 4 yrs)	441	19%	290	21%	360	19%	283	19%	391	18%	256	20%	121	45%	3	13%	2,145	20%
> 4 yrs	516	22%	230	17%	439	23%	233	15%	350	16%	278	22%	63	24%	11	48%	2,120	20%
Total	2,324	100%	1,375	100%	1,891	100%	1,515	100%	2,124	100%	1,250	100%	267	100%	23	100%	10,769	100%

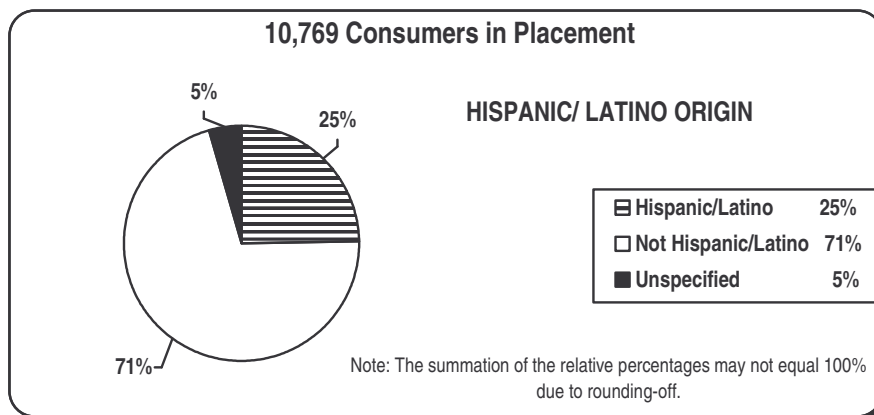
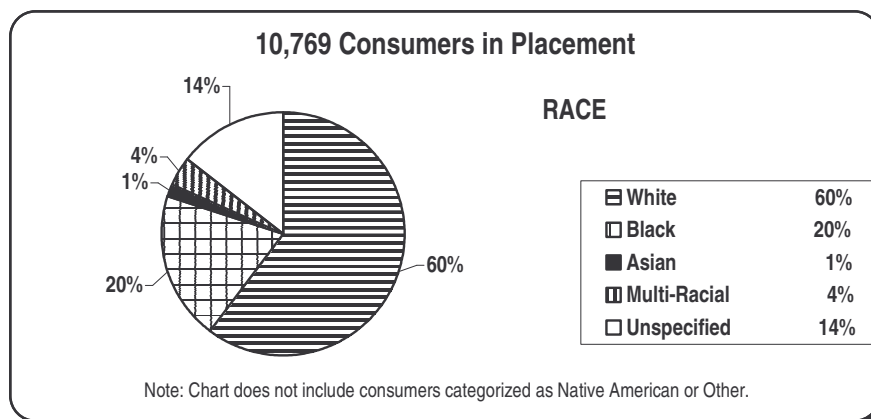
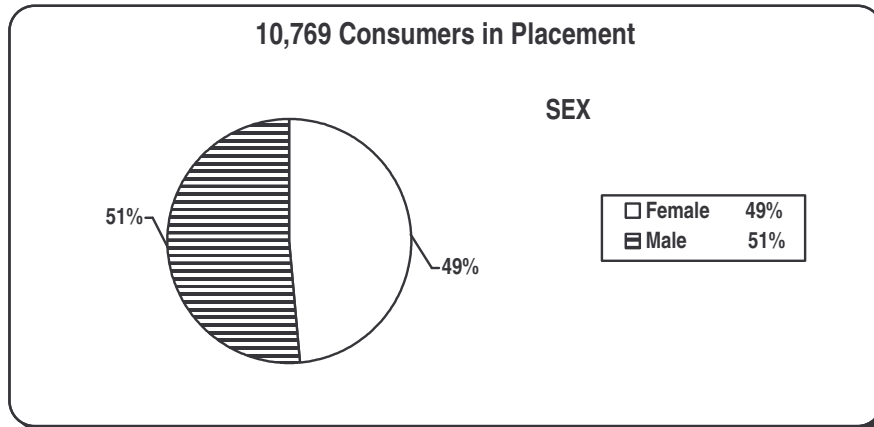
* = Less than 1% after rounding-off

Note: The summation of relative percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding-off.

⁽¹⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.

⁽²⁾ Includes primarily families served through Central Office contracts.

**FIGURE 11A. CONSUMERS IN PLACEMENT BY SEX, RACE, AND HISPANIC ORIGIN
STATEWIDE: FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06)**



**FIGURE 11B. CONSUMERS IN PLACEMENT BY AGE, SERVICE PLAN GOAL, AND CONTINUOUS TIME IN PLACEMENT
STATEWIDE: FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06)**

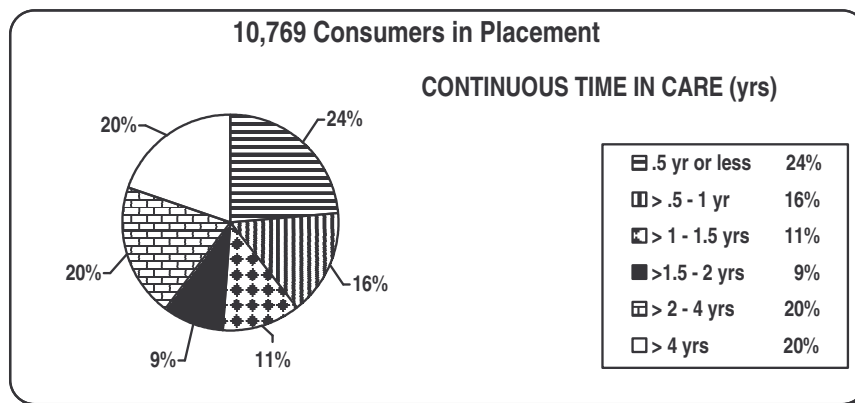
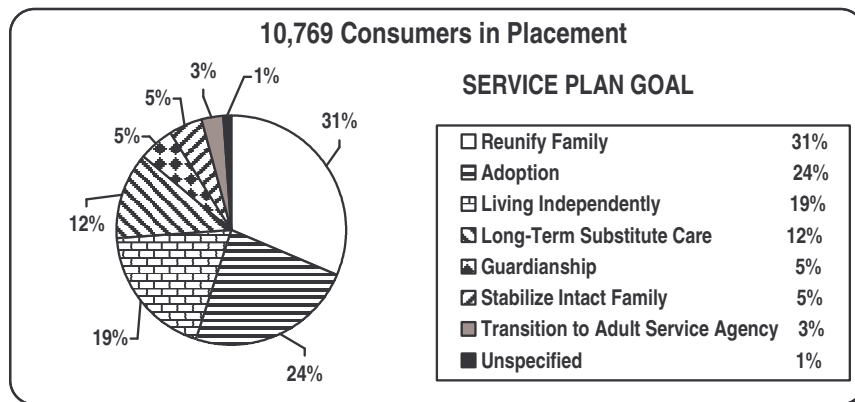
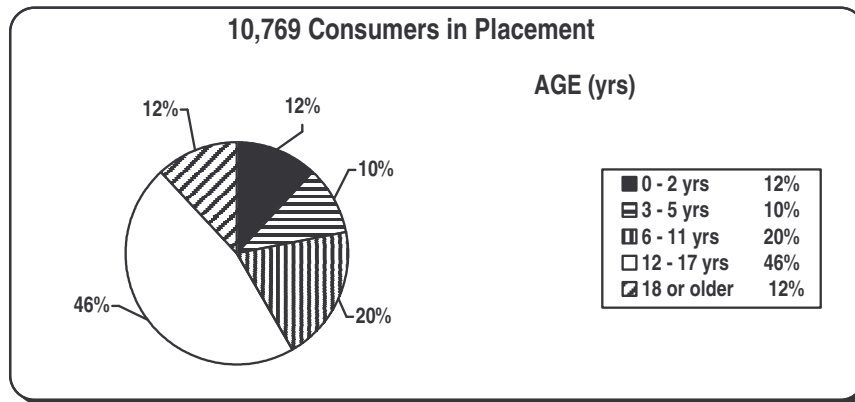


TABLE 7A. CONSUMERS IN PLACEMENT BY RACE AND CONTINUOUS TIME IN CARE: STATEWIDE FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06)

Continuous Time in Care	Race of Consumers														Total	
	Native															
	White		Black		Asian		American		Other ⁽¹⁾		Multi-Racial		Unspecified		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
(.5 yr or less)	1,500	23%	472	22%	34	21%	2	8%	5	83%	111	26%	407	26%	2,531	24%
(>.5 - 1 yr)	1,080	17%	312	15%	25	16%	4	17%	---	---	73	17%	232	15%	1,726	16%
(>1 - 1.5 yrs)	765	12%	223	10%	12	8%	6	25%	---	---	64	15%	166	11%	1,236	11%
(>1.5 - 2 yrs)	631	10%	180	8%	16	10%	5	21%	---	---	40	9%	139	9%	1,011	9%
(>2 - 4 yrs)	1,290	20%	432	20%	31	19%	5	21%	1	17%	83	19%	303	20%	2,145	20%
> 4yrs	1,202	19%	516	24%	42	26%	2	8%	---	---	57	13%	301	19%	2,120	20%
Total	6,468	100%	2,135	100%	160	100%	24	100%	6	100%	428	100%	1,548	100%	10,769	100%

⁽¹⁾ Includes Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islanders.

TABLE 7B. CONSUMERS IN PLACEMENT BY HISPANIC/LATINO ORIGIN AND CONTINUOUS TIME IN CARE: STATEWIDE FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06)

Continuous Time in Care	Hispanic/Latino Origin ⁽¹⁾ of Consumers						Total	
	Hispanic/ Latino		Not Hispanic/ Latino		Unspecified			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
(.5 yr or less)	616	23%	1,792	24%	123	25%	2,531	24%
(>.5 - 1 yr)	399	15%	1,230	16%	97	20%	1,726	16%
(>1 - 1.5 yrs)	290	11%	870	11%	76	15%	1,236	11%
(>1.5 - 2 yrs)	227	9%	734	10%	50	10%	1,011	9%
(>2 - 4 yrs)	555	21%	1,519	20%	71	14%	2,145	20%
> 4yrs	582	22%	1,463	19%	75	15%	2,120	20%
Total	2,669	100%	7,608	100%	492	100%	10,769	100%

⁽¹⁾ Consumers of any race who self-identify as being of Hispanic origin.

TABLE 8A. CONSUMERS IN PLACEMENT BY RACE AND SERVICE PLAN GOAL: STATEWIDE FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06)

Service Plan Goal	Race of Consumers												Total			
	White		Black		Asian		Native American		Other ⁽¹⁾		Multi-Racial				Unspecified	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Reunify Family	2,068	61%	592	17%	51	2%	7	*	3	*	157	5%	509	15%	3,387	100%
Adoption	1,524	60%	424	17%	18	1%	3	*	1	*	141	6%	422	17%	2,533	100%
Living Independently	1,169	57%	545	27%	42	2%	6	*	1	*	44	2%	229	11%	2,036	100%
Long-Term Substitute Care	804	61%	280	21%	26	2%	3	*	---	---	51	4%	163	12%	1,327	100%
Stabilize Intact Family	324	61%	92	17%	11	2%	---	---	1	---	8	2%	94	18%	530	100%
Guardianship	294	58%	117	23%	7	1%	5	*	---	---	16	3%	72	14%	511	100%
Long-Term Care w/Adult Serv. Agen.	211	67%	62	20%	3	1%	---	---	---	---	5	2%	33	11%	314	100%
Unspecified	74	56%	23	18%	2	2%	---	---	---	---	6	5%	26	20%	131	100%
Total	6,468	60%	2,135	20%	160	1%	24	*	6	*	428	4%	1,548	14%	10,769	100%

⁽¹⁾ Includes Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islanders.

TABLE 8B. CONSUMERS IN PLACEMENT BY HISPANIC/LATINO ORIGIN AND SERVICE PLAN GOAL: STATEWIDE FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06)

Service Plan Goal	Hispanic/Latino Origin ⁽¹⁾ of Consumers						Total	
	Hispanic/		Not Hispanic/		Unspecified			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Reunify Family	817	24%	2,420	71%	150	4%	3,387	100%
Adoption	713	28%	1,666	66%	154	6%	2,533	100%
Living Independently	420	21%	1,542	76%	74	4%	2,036	100%
Long-Term Substitute Care	353	27%	927	70%	47	4%	1,327	100%
Stabilize Intact Family	153	29%	353	67%	24	5%	530	100%
Guardianship	105	21%	376	74%	30	6%	511	100%
Long-Term Care w/Adult Serv. Agen.	66	21%	247	79%	1	*	314	100%
Unspecified	42	32%	77	59%	12	9%	131	100%
Total	2,669	25%	7,608	71%	492	5%	10,769	100%

⁽¹⁾ Consumers of any race who self-identify as being of Hispanic/Latino origin.

TABLE 8C. CONSUMERS IN PLACEMENT BY AGE GROUP AND SERVICE PLAN GOAL: STATEWIDE FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06)

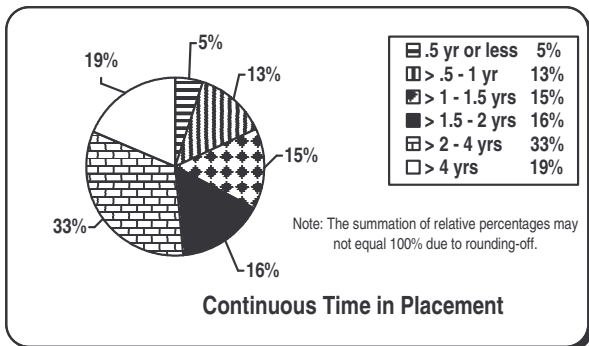
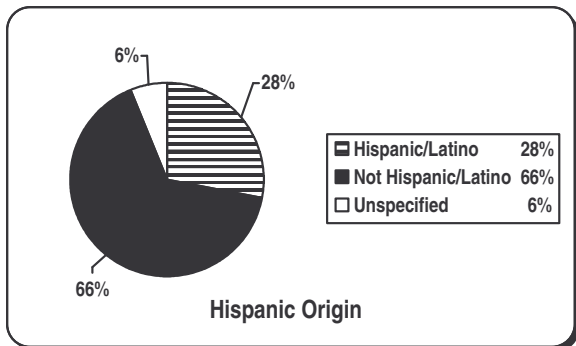
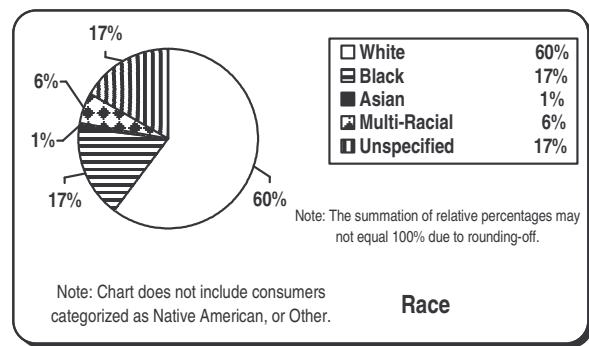
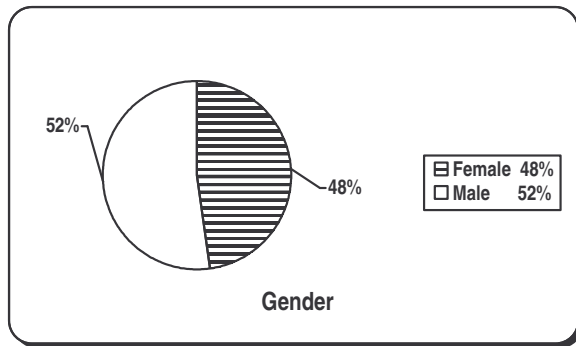
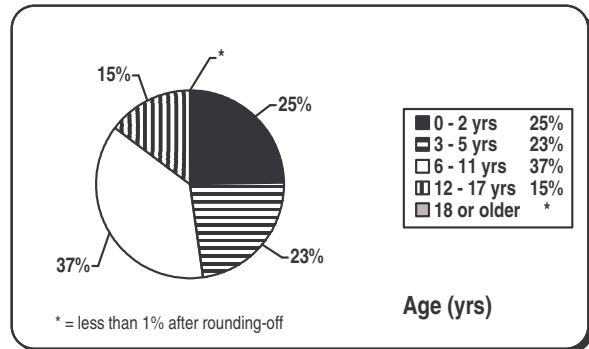
Service Plan Goal	Age Group of Consumers										Total	
	(0 - 2 yrs)		(3 - 5 yrs)		(6 - 11 yrs)		(12 - 17 yrs)		18 or older			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Reunify Family	550	16%	403	12%	735	22%	1,681	50%	18	1%	3,387	100%
Adoption	624	25%	589	23%	946	37%	371	15%	3	*	2,533	100%
Living Independently	---	---	---	---	---	---	1,028	50%	1,008	50%	2,036	100%
Long-Term Substitute Care	1	*	2	*	138	10%	1,143	86%	43	3%	1,327	100%
Stabilize Intact Family	59	11%	40	8%	86	16%	328	62%	17	3%	530	100%
Guardianship	27	5%	34	7%	179	35%	264	52%	7	1%	511	100%
Long-Term Care w/Adult Serv. Agen.	---	---	---	---	9	3%	114	36%	191	61%	314	100%
Unspecified	38	29%	10	8%	17	13%	65	50%	1	1%	131	100%
Total	1,299	12%	1,078	10%	2,110	20%	4,994	46%	1,288	12%	10,769	100%

TABLE 8D. CONSUMERS IN PLACEMENT BY CONTINUOUS TIME IN PLACEMENT AND SERVICE PLAN GOAL:

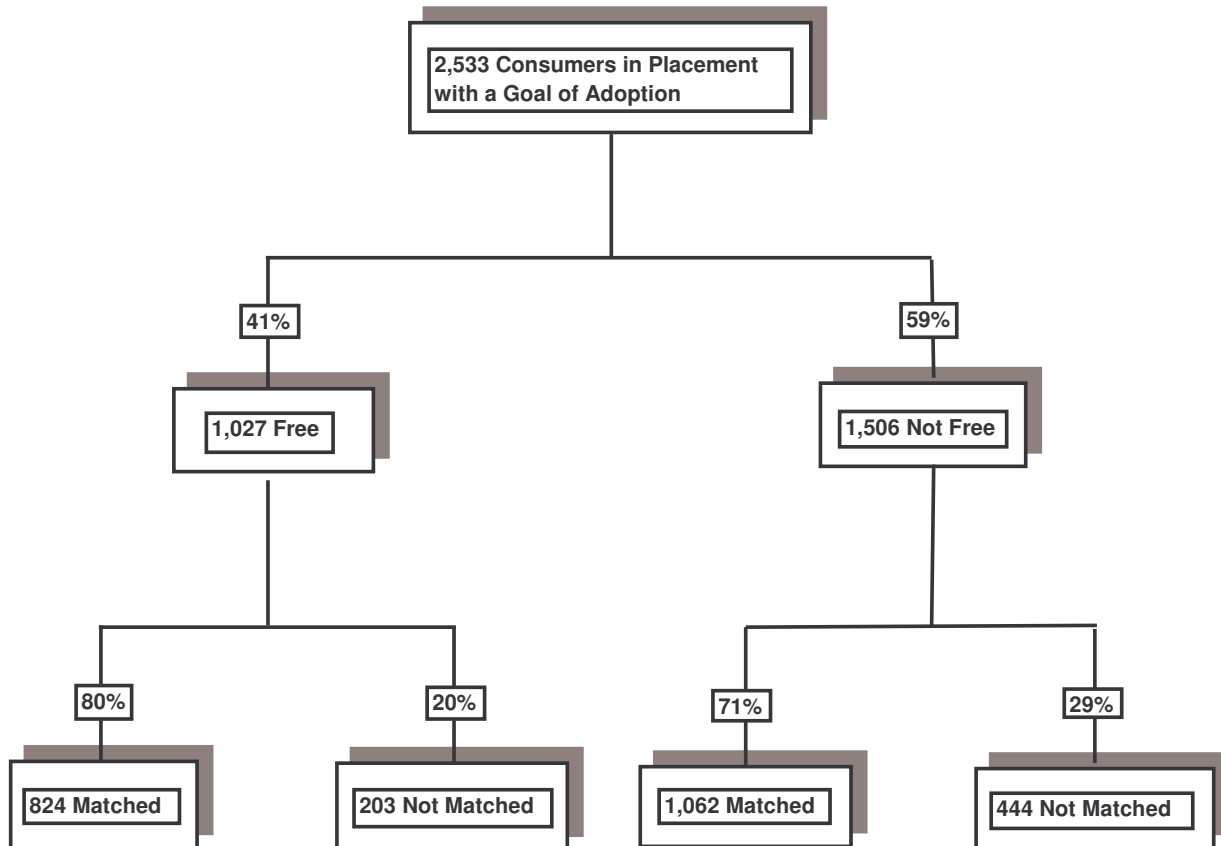
STATEWIDE FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06)

Service Plan Goal	Continuous Time in Placement										Total			
	(.5yr or less		(> .5 - 1 yr)		(>1 - 1.5 yrs)		(>1.5 - 2 yrs)		(>2 - 4 yrs)				> 4 yrs	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%			No.	%
Reunify Family	1,606	47%	964	28%	410	12%	205	6%	160	5%	42	1%	3,387	100%
Adoption	128	5%	331	13%	371	15%	402	16%	830	33%	471	19%	2,533	100%
Living Independently	133	7%	165	8%	181	9%	177	9%	569	28%	811	40%	2,036	100%
Long-Term Substitute Care	73	6%	105	8%	143	11%	100	8%	397	30%	509	38%	1,327	100%
Stabilize Intact Family	422	80%	54	10%	24	5%	14	3%	11	2%	5	1%	530	100%
Guardianship	30	6%	87	17%	85	17%	90	18%	131	26%	88	17%	511	100%
Long-Term Care w/Adult Serv. Agen.	12	4%	19	6%	22	7%	20	6%	47	15%	194	62%	314	100%
Unspecified	127	97%	1	1%	---	---	3	2%	---	---	---	---	131	100%
Total	2,531	24%	1,726	16%	1,236	11%	1,011	9%	2,145	20%	2,120	20%	10,769	100%

**Figure 12A. Age, Sex, Race, Hispanic Origin, and Continuous Time in Placement
of Consumers with a Goal of Adoption
FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06)**



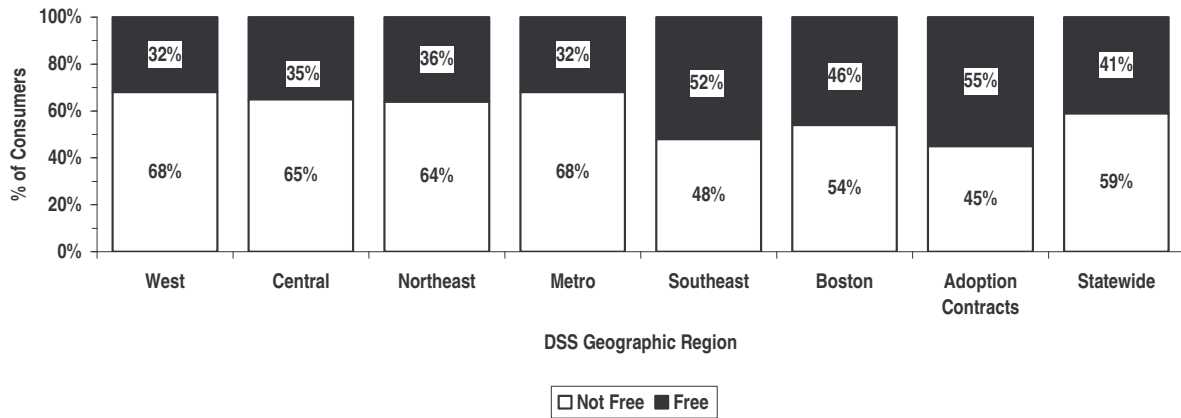
**Figure 12B. Consumers in Placement with a Goal of Adoption:
Legal Status and Match Status
FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06)**



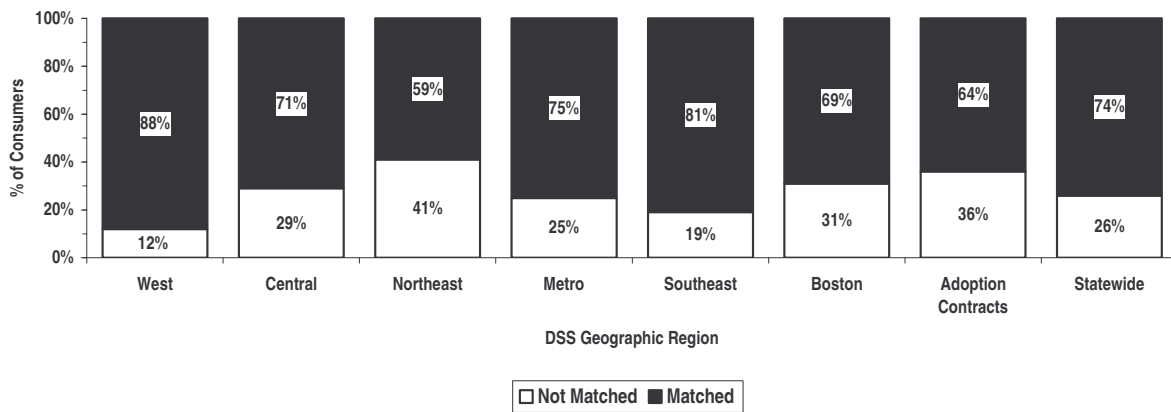
Note: Free = Legally Free for Adoption

Matched = Matched to a Permanent Family

**FIGURE 12C. Consumers in Placement with a Goal of Adoption and Legally Freed Status
FY'06, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06)**



**FIGURE 12D. Consumers in Placement with a Goal of Adoption
and Whether Matched to a Permanent Family
FY'06, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06)**



Case Intakes (Openings)

- During the 3rd Quarter of FY'2006, there were 4,030 case openings (unduplicated) and 17,264 consumer openings (unduplicated). Case openings include both new cases and cases that previously had been closed by DSS. Consumers who entered the DSS system during the quarter include both members of new cases and new members of ongoing cases, as well as re-opened consumers (previously opened and closed). **(Tables 9A and 9B)**
- Eighty-two percent of case intakes and 86% of consumer intakes were due to supported abuse/neglect reports. **(Tables 9A and 9B)**
- Voluntary requests for services accounted for 8% of case intakes and 6% of consumer intakes. **(Tables 9A and 9B)**
- CHINS referrals amounted to 7% of case intakes and 6% of consumer intakes. **(Tables 9A and 9B)**
- The proportion of case openings by type of intake is presented for each region in Fig. 13. Supported reports accounted for 78-90% of the total intakes for each region. Boston and the Northeastern Regions had the largest proportions of CHINS referrals (10%). Voluntary requests were most significant (13%) in the Metro Region. **(Fig. 13, Table 9A)**
- The regional counts of CHINS referrals ranged from 23 (Metro) to 78 (Southeast). Voluntary requests were highest in Metro (91 case openings). Case intakes via supported reports of child maltreatment were most numerous in the West and Southeast. The West and Southeast had the highest numbers of supported investigations during the 3rd Quarter of FY'2006 (See Table 14 on page 49). **(Table 9A)**
- Statewide and regionally, case openings are lowest in the 1st quarter. **(Fig. 14)**. This quarterly trend in case openings is driven by reports and investigations. Reports and investigations are lowest in the 1st quarter (summer vacation) then rise during the school year **(Figs. 20 and 21 on page 51)**.

TABLE 9A. CASE INTAKES DURING THE QUARTER BY TYPE OF INITIAL CONTACT AND DSS REGION: FY'2006, 3RD QUARTER (1/1/06 - 3/31/06)

DSS Geographic Region	Case Counts ⁽¹⁾										Total No.
	Supported CA/N Reports		CHINS Referrals		Voluntary Requests for Services		Other ⁽²⁾		Unspecified		
No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Western	702	90%	44	6%	24	3%	11	1%	3	*	784
Central	431	84%	31	6%	42	8%	9	2%	1	*	514
Northeast	596	81%	76	10%	37	5%	24	3%	---	---	733
Metro	548	81%	23	3%	91	13%	15	2%	---	---	677
Southeast	641	78%	78	9%	70	9%	31	4%	3	*	823
Boston	429	80%	52	10%	41	8%	11	2%	---	---	533
Adoption Contracts ⁽³⁾	---	---	---	---	1	100%	---	---	---	---	1
Total	3,347	82%	304	7%	306	8%	101	2%	7	*	4,065

⁽¹⁾ Case openings include both new cases and cases that previously had been closed. The total summation for each DSS Region is a duplicated count because some families had more than one case opening in a quarter by more than one type of initial contact. The unduplicated count of total case openings is 4,030.

⁽²⁾ Examples are a court order to provide services or a request on behalf of a consumer by another agency.

⁽³⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.

TABLE 9B. CONSUMER INTAKES DURING THE QUARTER BY TYPE OF INITIAL CONTACT AND DSS REGION: FY'2006, 3RD QUARTER (1/1/06 - 3/31/06)

DSS Geographic Region	Consumer Counts ⁽¹⁾										Total No.
	Supported CA/N Reports		CHINS Referrals		Voluntary Requests for Services		Other ⁽²⁾		Unspecified		
No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Western	3,219	94%	120	3%	61	2%	32	1%	4	*	3,436
Central	1,967	87%	112	5%	154	7%	25	1%	3	*	2,261
Northeast	2,788	86%	249	8%	133	4%	82	3%	---	---	3,252
Metro	2,340	84%	82	3%	324	12%	42	2%	2	*	2,790
Southeast	2,807	81%	291	8%	240	7%	110	3%	6	*	3,454
Boston	1,915	86%	149	7%	143	6%	28	1%	---	---	2,235
Adoption Contracts ⁽³⁾	---	---	---	---	1	100%	---	---	---	---	1
Total	15,036	86%	1,003	6%	1,056	6%	319	2%	15	*	17,429

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off

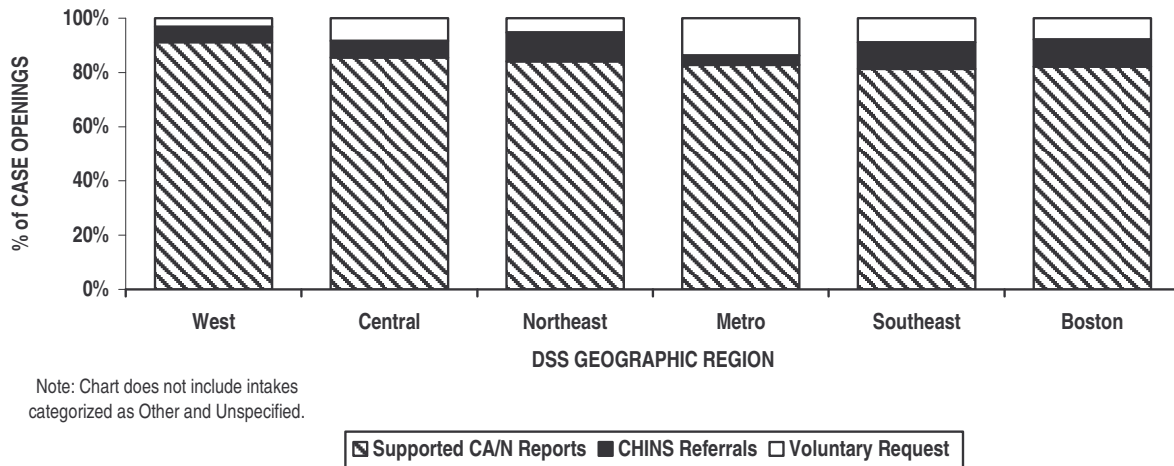
Note: The summation of relative percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding-off.

⁽¹⁾ Counts of consumers with case openings or newly added to ongoing cases during the quarter. The total summation for each DSS Region is a duplicated count because some consumers had more than one type of initial contact during the quarter. The unduplicated count of total consumers with case openings or newly added to ongoing cases is 17,264.

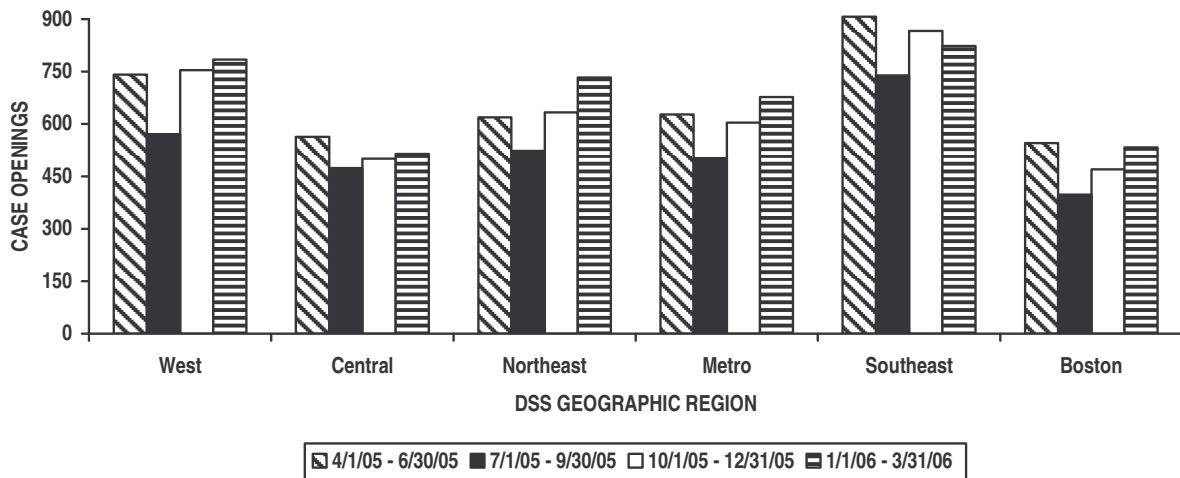
⁽²⁾ Examples are a court order to provide services or a request on behalf of a consumer by another agency.

⁽³⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.

**FIGURE 13. REASON FOR CASE OPENINGS BY DSS REGION
FY'2006, 3RD QUARTER (1/1/06 - 3/31/06)**



**FIGURE 14. INTAKES (CASE OPENINGS) BY DSS REGION
(FY'2005, 4TH QUARTER - FY'2006, 3RD QUARTER)**



Consumers with Placements Starting or Ending during the Quarter

- During the 3rd Quarter of FY'2006, 4,761 consumers started at least one placement and 1,878 consumers left at least one placement.¹⁵ These counts of placement dynamics are not the same as consumer entries and exits to placement since they include consumers who changed placements during the quarter. (Tables 10 and 11)
- Of those consumers who started a placement setting during the 3rd Quarter of FY'2006, 27% were first-time entrants and 73% were re-entrants.¹⁶ The re-entrant total includes consumers going from a home to a placement location and consumers changing placements.¹⁷ Regionally, the proportion of first-time entrants ranged from 19% in Boston to 34% in both the West and Northeast. (Table 10, Fig. 15)
- The largest influx to placement (first-time entrants and re-entrants combined) occurred in the Southeast (18% of statewide entrants). (Table 10)
- Across the state, 58% of all entrants were placed in foster care, 36% were placed in residential care, and 6% were placed in non-referral locations.¹⁸ (Table 10)
- Statewide, first-time entrants to placement were more likely than re-entrants to be placed in foster care. Seventy-six percent of first-time entrants and 51% of re-entrants were placed in foster homes. Conversely, 42% of re-entrants and 21% of first-time entrants were placed in residential care. (Table 10)
- Compared to other regions, Metro placed a much higher proportion of both first-time entrants (32%) and re-entrants (54%) into residential care. (Table 10, Fig. 16)
- Statewide, 24% of the consumers leaving a placement setting were returned home. The proportion returned home ranged from 14% in Boston to 32% in the West. (Table 11)
- Excluding consumers changing placements from the list of consumers with placements ending during the 3rd Quarter, leaves 749 consumers who actually left placement. Sixty percent of the 749 consumers leaving placement were returned home. (Table 11)
- An examination of the reasons for consumers ending placement reveals a large number of consumers moving from one placement (old service referral closed) to another (new service referral opened)—changing placements rather than leaving placement (Table 11). These consumers appear as re-entrants to placement in Table 10.

¹⁵ For individuals with multiple entries and exits during the quarter, only the first entry and exit were selected.

¹⁶ Re-entrants are consumers who had been in placement at some point in the past.

¹⁷ Changing providers

¹⁸ Non-referral locations include hospitals and other state agencies.

- During the 3rd Quarter of FY'2006, 4,761 consumers started placement (“new service referral for placement”). This was a 13% increase in entrants over the 2nd Quarter. A significant portion of this growth can be attributed to re-entrants to residential care. (**Table 10**)
- The major shifts in re-entrants to care over the past three quarters did not always involve a change of placement locations. Many new service referrals for placement were the result of an administrative change, i.e., the child remained with the same provider. This surge in re-entrants was related to the ending of the Commonworks residential care program during the 1st Quarter of FY'2006. The closure of this program necessitated the creation of new service referrals during the 1st and 2nd Quarters of FY'2006 (even though children had not moved). These service referrals artificially inflated the numbers of children changing placements.

TABLE 10. CONSUMERS STARTING PLACEMENTS DURING THE QUARTER BY DSS REGION: FY'2006, 3RD QUARTER (1/1/06 - 3/31/06)

DSS Geographic Region										
Entry Type	Placement Location Started	West	Central	Northeast	Metro	Southeast	Boston	Adoption Contracts ⁽¹⁾	Other ⁽²⁾	Total
First-Time Entrants:		267	195	247	220	229	121	---	13	1,292
	Foster Care	235	150	175	141	175	94	---	10	980
	Residential	25	40	61	70	49	21	---	3	269
	Non-Referral Location ⁽³⁾	7	5	11	9	5	6	---	---	43
Re-Entrants:		516	429	471	544	647	530	20	312	3,469
	Foster Care	396	230	249	228	295	229	16	139	1,782
	Residential	78	179	184	295	317	263	2	144	1,462
	Non-Referral Location ⁽³⁾	42	20	38	21	35	38	2	29	225
Total		783	624	718	764	876	651	20	325	4,761

⁽¹⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.

⁽²⁾ Includes primarily families served through Central Office contracts.

⁽³⁾ Includes hospitals and other state agencies.

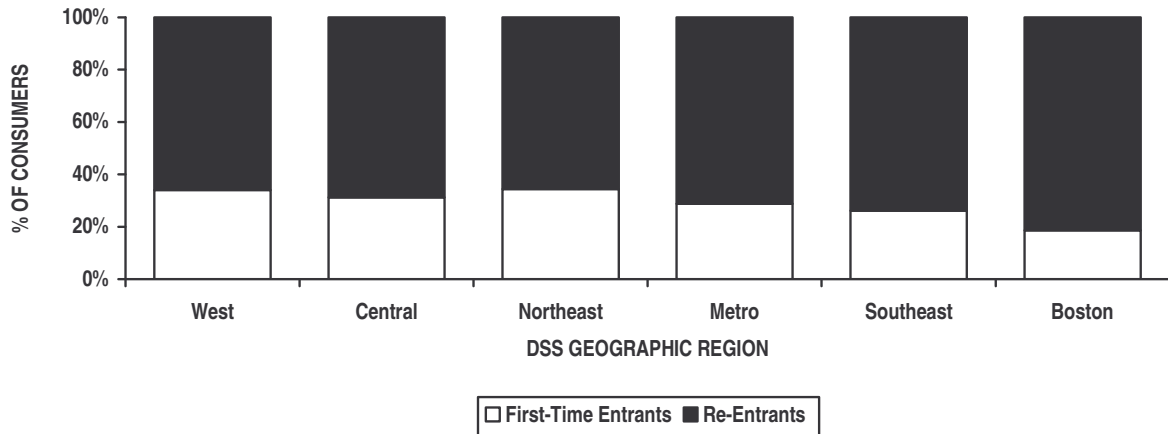
TABLE 11. CONSUMERS ENDING PLACEMENTS DURING THE QUARTER BY DSS REGION: FY'2006, 3RD QUARTER (1/1/06 - 3/31/06)

Reason Placement Ended	DSS Geographic Region						Adoption		Total
	West	Central	Northeast	Metro	Southeast	Boston	Contracts ⁽¹⁾	Other ⁽²⁾	
New or Other Service Referral for Placement	127	96	146	151	188	132	6	90	936
Child Returned Home	108	52	93	74	82	32	---	10	451
Placement in Non-Referral Location	16	18	20	21	18	27	---	9	129
Consumer Adopted	15	13	8	8	13	9	1	1	68
Child 18 or Older	11	7	19	4	15	6	---	4	66
Child on the Run	18	3	12	5	9	14	---	3	64
New Sub-Contract Referral for Placement	28	6	3	3	8	5	1	10	64
Custody to Other Individual	14	6	10	10	8	8	---	---	56
Guardianship	2	2	---	3	2	---	---	30	39
Custody to Other Agency	---	1	---	---	3	---	---	---	4
Consumer Deceased	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	1
Total	339	204	311	280	346	233	8	157	1,878

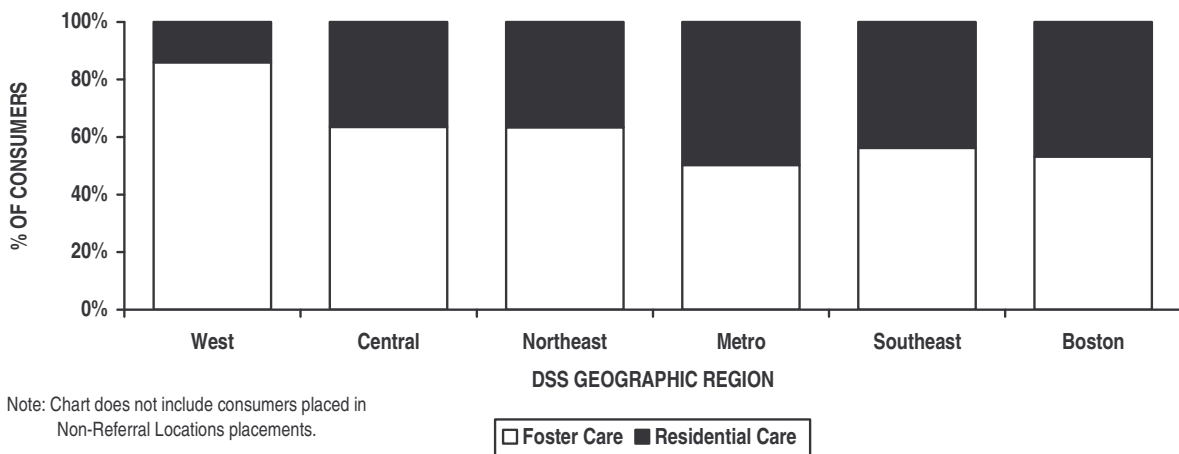
⁽¹⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.

⁽²⁾ Includes primarily families served through Central Office contracts.

**FIGURE 15. CONSUMERS WITH PLACEMENTS STARTING
DURING THE QUARTER (FIRST-TIME ENTRANTS AND RE-ENTRANTS)
FY'2006, 3RD QUARTER (1/1/06 - 3/31/06)**

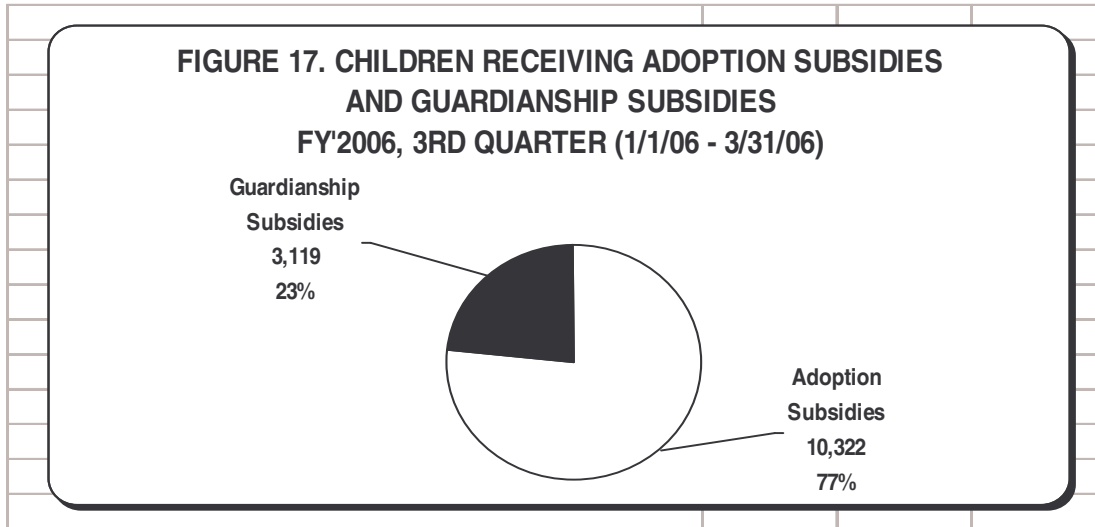


**FIGURE 16. CONSUMERS WITH FOSTER AND RESIDENTIAL CARE PLACEMENTS
STARTING DURING THE QUARTER
FY'2006, 3RD QUARTER (1/1/06 - 3/31/06)**



Adoption and Guardianship Subsidies

- At the end of the 3rd Quarter of FY'2006, the total number of children receiving adoption subsidies was 10,322. Guardianship subsidies totaled 3,119. (**Fig. 17**)



From the 2nd Quarter to the 3rd Quarter of FY'2006, adoption and guardianship subsidies both increased 1%. Typically, adoption subsidies increase about 1% each quarter while guardianship subsidies increase around 1-3%. (See table below)

	Subsidies (Active Service Referrals)			
	Adoption		Guardianship	
Quarter	No.	Quarterly Change	No.	Quarterly Change
FY'2003 3 rd	9,328	1%	2,779	1%
4 th	9,470	2%	2,838	2%
FY'2004 1 st	9,605	1%	2,839	*
2 nd	9,616	*	2,866	1%
3 rd	9,712	1%	2,944	3%
4 th	9,859	2%	2,996	2%
FY'2005 1 st	9,954	1%	3,002	*
2 nd	10,081	1%	3,081	3%
3 rd	10,002	-1%	3,050	-1%
4 th	10,146	1%	3,083	1%
FY'2006 1 st	10,113	*	3,073	*
2 nd	10,224	1%	3,098	1%
3 rd	10,322	1%	3,119	1%

* = less than 1% after rounding-off

Foster Homes¹⁹

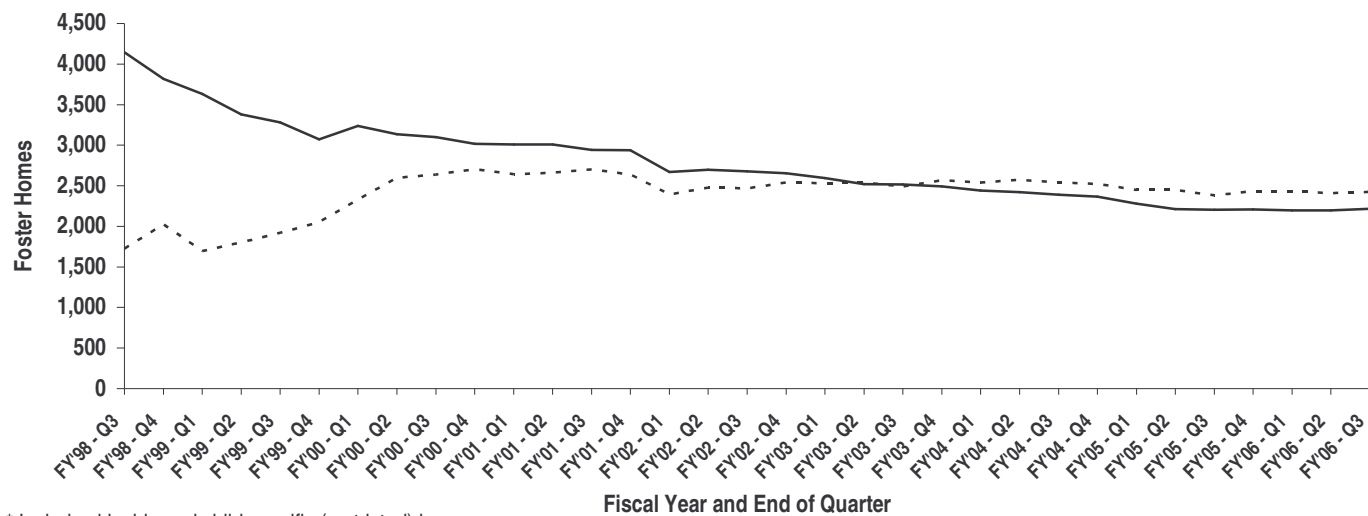
- At the end of the 3rd Quarter of FY'2006, there were 4,642 foster homes under the direct supervision of DSS. Included in this total are kinship and child-specific (restricted) homes²⁰ as well as unrestricted homes.²¹ Unrestricted foster homes accounted for 48% (2,216) of the foster home total while restricted foster homes amounted to 52% (2,426). **(Table 12A)**
- From the 3rd Quarter of FY'1998 to 3rd Quarter of FY'2006, restricted homes as a proportion of all foster homes gradually increased from 29% to 52%. **(See graph on next page)**
- Statewide, 79% of foster parents in unrestricted homes were White and 61% were married. **(Tables 12A and 12C)**
- Statewide, 74% of the foster parents in restricted homes were White and 51% were married. **(Tables 12A and 12C)**
- Thirteen percent (604) of all foster homes were identified as Black (344 restricted and 260 unrestricted). **(Table 12A)**
- Sixteen percent (723) of all foster homes were identified as Hispanic/Latino (369 restricted and 354 unrestricted). **(Table 12B)**

¹⁹ Foster homes provide formal, temporary out-of-home placement to children who are in the care/custody of DSS. Foster families may be related or unrelated to the child.

²⁰ Child-specific and kinship placements occur (1) when a court orders a child to be placed in a specific foster home; or (2) when a child requires placement and the child or his/her parent(s) has proposed another home in which the child can be placed; or (3) when DSS places a child with relatives or with a caregiver who is known to the child's family. Placements in kinship and child-specific homes are limited to specified children.

²¹ Unrestricted placements are those where DSS places a child with a non-relative foster family. Unlike restricted homes (child specific and kinship), the unrestricted home is not limited to a particular child.

RESTRICTED AND UNRESTRICTED FOSTER HOMES* **End of 3rd Quarter of FY'1998 (3/31/98) to End of 3rd Quarter of FY'2006 (3/31/06)**



* Includes kinship and child specific (restricted) homes as well as unrestricted homes.

— Unrestricted - - - - - Restricted

TABLE 12A. PROFILE OF FOSTER HOMES BY RACE AND DSS REGION: FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06) ⁽¹⁾

DSS Geographic Region															Adoption Contracts ⁽²⁾		Total	
Provider	West		Central		Northeast		Metro		Southeast		Boston							
Status	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Restricted:	479		318		418		321		613		247		30		2,426			
White	390	81%	243	76%	306	73%	266	83%	487	79%	87	35%	20	67%	1,799	74%		
Black	54	11%	21	7%	31	7%	26	8%	77	13%	126	51%	9	30%	344	14%		
Asian	---	---	2	1%	16	4%	---	---	3	*	3	1%	---	---	24	1%		
Native American	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	6	1%	---	---	---	---	6	*		
Other ⁽³⁾	---	---	---	---	1	*	---	---	---	---	1	*	---	---	2	*		
Multi-Racial	5	1%	1	*	6	1%	1	*	2	*	2	1%	---	---	17	1%		
Unspecified	30	6%	51	16%	58	14%	28	9%	38	6%	28	11%	1	3%	234	10%		
Unrestricted:	516		330		316		298		493		170		93		2,216			
White	403	78%	298	90%	255	81%	256	86%	417	85%	48	28%	84	90%	1,761	79%		
Black	66	13%	18	5%	8	3%	32	11%	33	7%	98	58%	5	5%	260	12%		
Asian	2	*	---	---	12	4%	---	---	2	*	1	1%	---	---	17	1%		
Native American	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	5	1%	---	---	---	---	5	*		
Multi-Racial	37	7%	1	*	4	1%	1	*	1	*	1	1%	1	1%	46	2%		
Unspecified	8	2%	13	4%	37	12%	9	3%	35	7%	22	13%	3	3%	127	6%		
Total	995		648		734		619		1,106		417		123		4,642			

⁽¹⁾ Includes kinship and child specific (restricted) homes as well as unrestricted homes.

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off

⁽²⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.

⁽³⁾ Includes Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islanders.

TABLE 12B. PROFILE OF FOSTER HOMES BY HISPANIC ORIGIN AND DSS REGION: FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06) ⁽¹⁾

DSS Geographic Region																Adoption		Total	
Provider	West		Central		Northeast		Metro		Southeast		Boston		Contracts ⁽²⁾						
Status	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%			
Restricted:	479		318		418		321		613		247		30		2,426				
Hispanic/Latino	104	22%	55	17%	98	23%	30	9%	36	6%	43	17%	3	10%	369	15%			
Not Hispanic/Latino	360	75%	250	79%	297	71%	279	87%	553	90%	191	77%	25	83%	1,955	81%			
Unspecified	15	3%	13	4%	23	6%	12	4%	24	4%	13	5%	2	7%	102	4%			
Unrestricted:	516		330		316		298		493		170		93		2,216				
Hispanic/Latino	127	25%	36	11%	79	25%	20	7%	52	11%	34	20%	6	6%	354	16%			
Not Hispanic/Latino	388	75%	290	88%	231	73%	272	91%	426	86%	135	79%	87	94%	1,829	83%			
Unspecified	1	*	4	1%	6	2%	6	2%	15	3%	1	1%	---	---	33	1%			
Total	995		648		734		619		1,106		417		123		4,642				

Note: The summation of relative percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding-off.

⁽¹⁾ Includes kinship and child specific (restricted) homes as well as unrestricted homes.

⁽²⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.

TABLE 12C. PROFILE OF FOSTER HOMES BY MARITAL STATUS AND DSS REGION: FY'2006, End of 3RD QUARTER (3/31/06) ⁽¹⁾

DSS Geographic Region																
Provider	West		Central		Northeast		Metro		Southeast		Boston		Adoption Contracts ⁽²⁾		Total	
Status	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No	%	No.	%
Restricted:	479		318		418		321		613		247		30		2,426	
Married	257	54%	173	54%	219	52%	164	51%	341	56%	74	30%	18	60%	1,246	51%
Single	119	25%	82	26%	113	27%	89	28%	141	23%	122	49%	8	27%	674	28%
Divorced	65	14%	41	13%	39	9%	42	13%	71	12%	28	11%	3	10%	289	12%
Separated	20	4%	16	5%	25	6%	5	2%	26	4%	14	6%	1	3%	107	4%
Widowed	17	4%	5	2%	14	3%	15	5%	27	4%	8	3%	---	---	86	4%
Unspecified	1	*	1	*	8	2%	6	2%	7	1%	1	*	---	---	24	1%
Unrestricted:	516		330		316		298		493		170		93		2,216	
Married	310	60%	245	74%	182	58%	166	56%	329	67%	51	30%	69	74%	1,352	61%
Single	91	18%	44	13%	81	26%	82	28%	77	16%	79	46%	22	24%	476	21%
Divorced	70	14%	30	9%	29	9%	35	12%	51	10%	21	12%	2	2%	238	11%
Widowed	26	5%	3	1%	12	4%	11	4%	23	5%	8	5%	---	---	83	4%
Separated	19	4%	8	2%	11	3%	4	1%	12	2%	11	6%	---	---	65	3%
Unspecified	---	---	---	---	1	*	---	---	1	*	---	---	---	---	2	*
Total	995		648		734		619		1,106		417		123		4,642	

Note: The summation of relative percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding-off.

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off

⁽¹⁾ Includes kinship and child specific (restricted) homes as well as unrestricted homes.

⁽²⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.

Child Maltreatment Reports, Investigations, and DA Referrals

Reports

- Statewide, 18,618 reports were recorded during the 3rd Quarter of FY'2006. Sixty-four percent of the reports were screened-in for investigation. Six percent of all reports were screened-in as emergencies. **(Table 13)**
- Among regions, reports of child maltreatment were most numerous in the West (3,642) and Southeast (2,826). The Judge Baker Children's Center (hotline) recorded 3,712 reports. Regional screen-in rates ranged from 57% in the West to 71% in the Northeast. The screen-in rate at the Judge Baker Children's Center was 72%. **(Table 13 and Fig. 18)**
- The DSS Regions screened-in 2% of all reports as emergencies. In contrast, emergency screen-ins accounted for 23% of the reports received by the Judge Baker Children's Center Hotline. **(Table 13)**
- Statewide, reports rose 8% from the 2nd Quarter to the 3rd Quarter of FY'2006. Increases ranged from 5% in Boston to 17% in Metro. Typically, report counts drop during the summer quarter (Q1) then climb during the school year quarters (Q2-Q4). **(Fig. 20)**

Investigations

- The number of investigations completed during the 3rd Quarter of FY'2006 was 9,948.²² Fifty-eight percent of the investigations resulted in a supported finding. **(Table 14)**
- The Southeast conducted more investigations (1,866) than the other regions. Regional support rates went from a low of 53% in the Northeast to a high of 63% in the West. Judge Baker staff achieved the highest support rate: 71% of the completed investigations (all emergencies) were supported. **(Table 14, Fig. 19)**

²² The number of investigations is lower than the number of screened-in reports. This occurs because an investigation may be associated to multiple reports on the same incident or by reports received on separate but closely occurring incidents.

- The Northeastern Region had the highest screen-in rate (71%) and the lowest support rate (53%). Conversely, the Western Region had the lowest screen-in rate (57%) and the highest support rate (63%). (**Table 14, Fig. 19**)
- Statewide, investigations increased 1% from the 2nd Quarter to the 3rd Quarter of FY'2006. Over the same period, regional changes in investigations ranged from -3% in the Southeast to 8% in Metro. (**Fig. 21**)

TABLE 13. CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT REPORTS BY DSS REGION: FY'2006, 3RD QUARTER (1/1/06 - 3/31/06)

DSS Geographic Region	Screening Decision						Total	
	Screened Out		Screened-In					
			Non-Emergency		Emergency		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
West	1,595	44%	1,985	55%	62	2%	3,642	20%
Central	928	41%	1,276	57%	37	2%	2,241	12%
Northeast	740	29%	1,723	69%	46	2%	2,509	13%
Metro	787	39%	1,203	59%	47	2%	2,037	11%
Southeast	986	35%	1,778	63%	62	2%	2,826	15%
Boston	534	33%	1,068	65%	29	2%	1,631	9%
Judge Baker Children's Center	1,054	28%	1,812	49%	846	23%	3,712	20%
Special Investigations	8	40%	11	55%	1	5%	20	*
Total	6,632	36%	10,856	58%	1,130	6%	18,618	100%

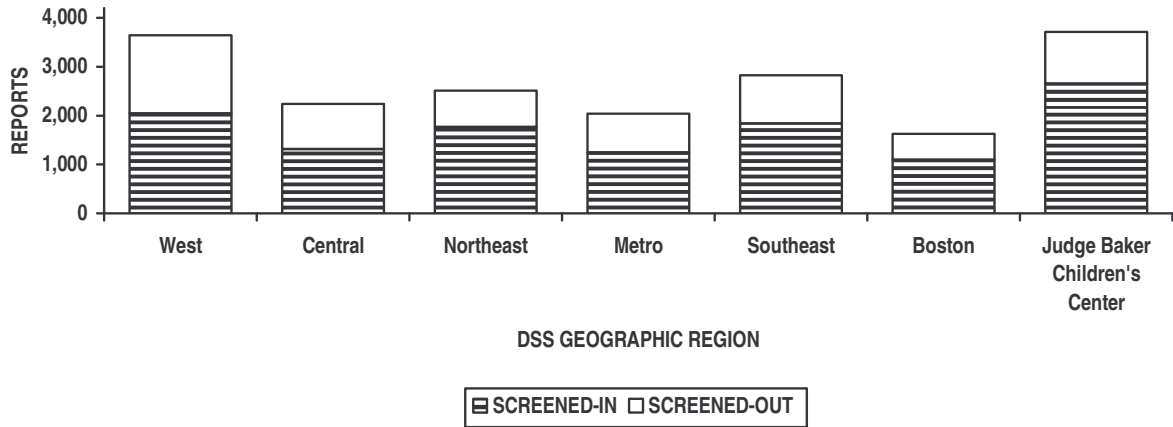
* = Less than 1% after rounding-off

TABLE 14. CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT INVESTIGATIONS BY DSS REGION: FY'2006, 3RD QUARTER (1/1/06 - 3/31/06)

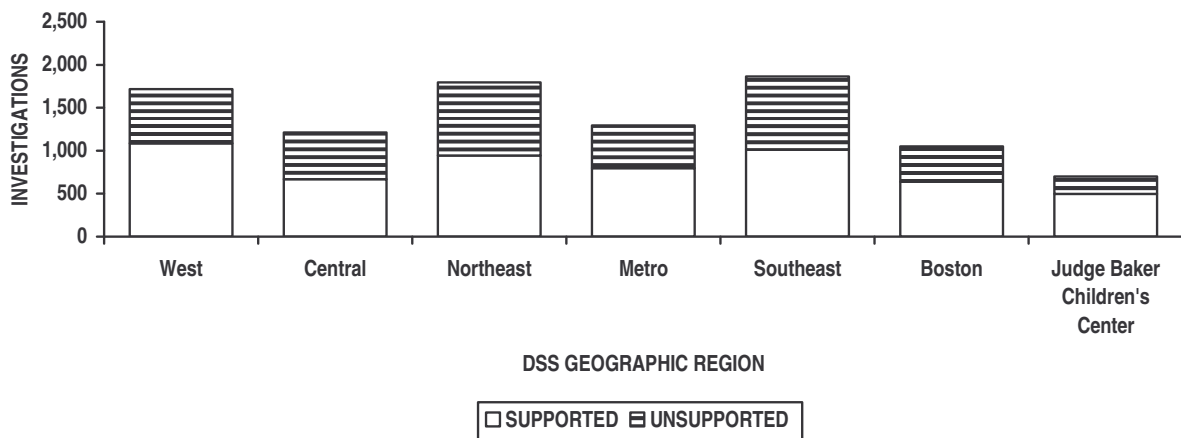
DSS Geographic Region	Investigation Decision				Total	
	Supported		Unsupported			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
West	1,084	63%	633	37%	1,717	17%
Central	671	55%	542	45%	1,213	12%
Northeast	943	53%	852	47%	1,795	18%
Metro	797	61%	499	39%	1,296	13%
Southeast	1,014	54%	852	46%	1,866	19%
Boston	640	61%	410	39%	1,050	11%
Judge Baker Children's Center	497	71%	203	29%	700	7%
Special Investigations	75	24%	236	76%	311	3%
Total	5,721	58%	4,227	42%	9,948	100%

Note: The summation of relative percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding-off.

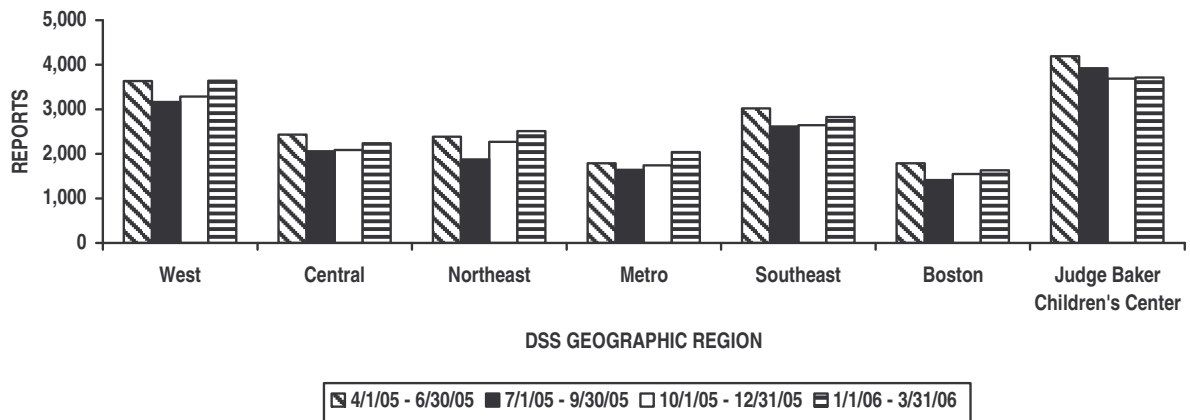
**FIGURE 18. CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT REPORTS
(SCREENING DECISION BY DSS REGION)
FY'2006, 3RD QUARTER (1/1/06 - 3/31/06)**



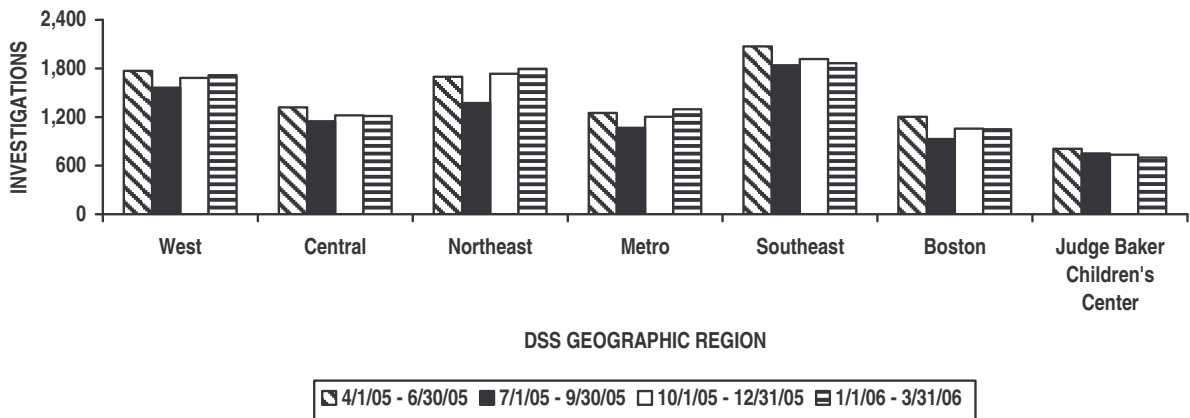
**FIGURE 19. CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT INVESTIGATIONS
(INVESTIGATION DECISION BY DSS REGION)
FY'2006, 3RD QUARTER (1/1/06 - 3/31/06)**



**FIGURE 20. CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT REPORTS BY DSS REGION
(FY'2005, 4TH QUARTER - FY'2006, 3RD QUARTER)**



**FIGURE 21. CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT INVESTIGATIONS BY DSS REGION
(FY'2005, 4TH QUARTER - FY'2006, 3RD QUARTER)**



DA Referrals

- During the 3rd Quarter of FY'2006, 1,169 cases were referred to District Attorneys (DAs) (See table below). Forty-four percent of case referrals to DAs were mandatory referrals²³ and 56% were discretionary referrals²⁴ (**Fig. 22**).

Case Referrals*

Date	Mandatory		Discretionary		Total
	No.	%	No.	%	No.
FY'01, Q3	380	43%	504	57%	884
FY'01, Q4	435	48%	468	52%	903
FY'02, Q1	341	46%	403	54%	744
FY'02, Q2	421	45%	507	55%	928
FY'02, Q3	443	42%	614	58%	1,057
FY'02, Q4	494	45%	616	55%	1,110
FY'03, Q1	477	46%	555	54%	1,032
FY'03, Q2	488	48%	530	52%	1,018
FY'03, Q3	525	46%	611	54%	1,136
FY'03, Q4	599	49%	614	51%	1,213
FY'04, Q1	527	52%	489	48%	1,016
FY'04, Q2	489	45%	586	55%	1,075
FY'04, Q3	527	45%	655	55%	1,182
FY'04, Q4	558	45%	669	55%	1,227
FY'05, Q1	500	49%	518	51%	1,018
FY'05, Q2	500	45%	603	55%	1,103
FY'05, Q3	575	47%	637	53%	1,212
FY'05, Q4	547	44%	701	56%	1,248
FY'06, Q1	490	44%	614	56%	1,104
FY'06, Q2	509	44%	659	56%	1,168
FY'06, Q3	518	44%	651	56%	1,169

* DA referrals approved during the Quarter.

- Sexual abuse accounted for 83% of the reasons for mandatory case referrals²⁵ during the 3rd Quarter of FY'2006 (**Fig. 23, Table 15** on following pages). Fifteen percent of the case referral reasons were for serious physical abuse.

²³ Mandatory referrals to District Attorneys (and local law enforcement authorities) are made following a DSS investigation that results in a supported report of severe child maltreatment (sexual abuse, severe physical abuse, or death). Mandatory referrals are also made when a maltreatment report is either screened-out or unsupported, on the basis that the alleged perpetrator did not meet the definition of caretaker, but the allegations match one of the aforementioned maltreatment categories.

²⁴ There are two categories of discretionary referrals: (1) DSS may immediately report cases of serious physical injury to the District Attorney; or (2) DSS may refer other matters involving possible criminal conduct (including but not limited to cases of abuse or neglect) to the District Attorney, regardless of whether the maltreatment report is supported or unsupported.

²⁵ **A mandatory case referral may include more than one reason.**

- Table 16 (on page 55) displays a breakdown of case referrals by type and county. In general, the number of referrals was directly related to the population size²⁶ for the county. Referral counts were highest for the most populous counties, Essex, Middlesex, Worcester, and Suffolk. Based on a comparison of county population estimates, Hampden County (encompassing city of Springfield) had a higher number of referrals than expected. Norfolk and Barnstable Counties had lower numbers of referrals than expected.

Reasons for Mandatory Referrals

Date	Sexual Abuse		Physical Abuse		Death ²⁷		Total
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.
FY'01, Q3	303	75%	91	23%	8	2%	402
FY'01, Q4	346	77%	102	23%	3	1%	451
FY'02, Q1	295	83%	57	16%	5	1%	357
FY'02, Q2	329	75%	107	24%	5	1%	441
FY'02, Q3	361	78%	90	20%	9	2%	460
FY'02, Q4	398	78%	111	22%	3	1%	512
FY'03, Q1	409	82%	84	17%	8	2%	501
FY'03, Q2	412	82%	88	18%	--	--	500
FY'03, Q3	412	76%	123	23%	6	1%	541
FY'03, Q4	455	73%	166	27%	5	1%	626
FY'04, Q1	459	83%	87	16%	9	2%	555
FY'04, Q2	385	76%	114	23%	5	1%	504
FY'04, Q3	414	76%	127	23%	6	1%	547
FY'04, Q4	455	78%	122	21%	6	1%	583
FY'05, Q1	412	80%	97	19%	4	1%	513
FY'05, Q2	398	77%	113	22%	5	1%	516
FY'05, Q3	461	79%	124	21%	2	*	587
FY'05, Q4	444	78%	122	21%	2	*	568
FY'06, Q1	432	86%	66	13%	5	1%	503
FY'06, Q2	432	81%	99	19%	3	1%	534
FY'06, Q3	445	83%	82	15%	7	1%	534

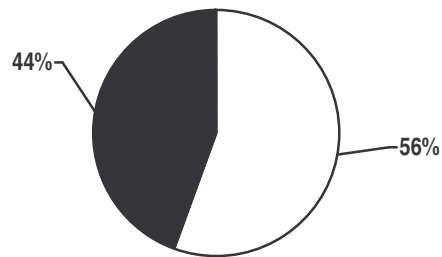
* = less than 1% after rounding-off

²⁶ County population estimates for 2004 (<http://www.census.gov/popest/counties/tables/CO-EST2004-01-25.XLS>).

²⁷ Not all DA referrals resulting from an allegation that a child's death was due to abuse or neglect lead to an ultimate finding that the death was in fact due to abuse or neglect. DSS publishes an annual report of child fatalities that includes an analysis of child deaths due to abuse or neglect.

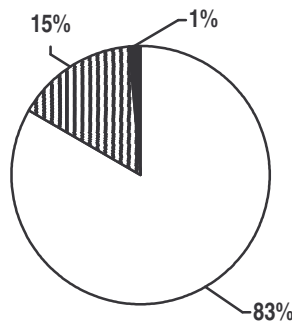
DA REFERRALS FY'2006, 3RD QUARTER (1/1/06 - 3/31/06)

FIGURE 22. TYPE OF CASE REFERRAL (Case Count)



□ DISCRETIONARY 651 ■ MANDATORY 518

FIGURE 23. REASON FOR MANDATORY REFERRALS (Reason Count)



Note: The summation of relative percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding-off.

□ SEXUAL ABUSE 445 ▨ PHYSICAL ABUSE 82 ■ DEATH 7

NOTE: A case referral may include more than one reason (more than one type of maltreatment).

**TABLE 15. REASONS FOR MANDATORY CASE REFERRALS TO DISTRICT ATTORNEYS:
FY'2006, 3RD QUARTER (1/1/06 - 3/31/06)**

Nature of Abuse	Reasons	
	No.	%
Sexual Abuse:	445	83%
Sexual Assault	408	
Sexual Exploitation	37	
.....		
Serious Physical Abuse:	82	15%
.....		
Death:	7	1%
.....		
Total Reasons for Mandatory Referrals	534	100%

TABLE 16. CASE REFERRALS BY TYPE AND COUNTY ⁽¹⁾: FY'2006, 3RD QUARTER (1/1/06 - 3/31/06)

County ⁽²⁾	Case Referrals				Total No.
	Discretionary		Mandatory		
	No.	%	No.	%	
Essex	140	53%	124	47%	264
Middlesex	124	58%	90	42%	214
Worcester	80	59%	55	41%	135
Hampden	66	51%	63	49%	129
Suffolk	77	65%	41	35%	118
Plymouth	54	77%	16	23%	70
Bristol	22	37%	38	63%	60
Norfolk	27	53%	24	47%	51
Berkshire	11	23%	37	77%	48
Hampshire	23	82%	5	18%	28
Franklin	10	53%	9	47%	19
Barnstable	4	29%	10	71%	14
Dukes	2	100%	---	---	2
OUT OF STATE	11	65%	6	35%	17
Total	651	56%	518	44%	1,169

⁽¹⁾ DA referrals approved during the Quarter.

⁽²⁾ County where the child resides.